

# The Catholic Library World

Official Journal of the CATHOLIC LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

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CATHOLIC  
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Indexed in *The Catholic Periodical Index* and *Library Literature*

## Leaven and Salt . . . . .

As time brings me more and more acquaintance with the work of the Association, I am increasingly aware that the key persons in the Association's program are the Unit officers. They carry the burden of making practical the larger aims of the profession. They make it possible for the Association to speak to its members and friends with varying words but a single voice. They adapt universal purposes to local needs. Most important they reach non-members whom the Association can serve, who need professional contacts in their service to readers.

Currently Unit Chairmen are asked to take responsibility for the observance of CATHOLIC BOOK WEEK. The national committee on CBW is supplying a poster, book-lists, and suggestions of methods. Members who need help should appeal to their nearest Unit chairman who will coordinate their efforts and make suggestions of speakers, radio programs, public library and book shop helps and much more.

Sister Mary Eone, OSF, of the College of St. Teresa, Winona, Minn., has accepted the chairmanship of the Membership Committee. She will be contacting Unit officers with an appeal for their whole-hearted help in contacting potential members. No one sitting in an office removed from the hustle of an active library can provide the personal contacts needed to interest our potential friends in the cause of Catholic reading. Personal missionary work is the only effective means of reaching these people. Invite your friends to unit meetings. Bring them to the discussions and round tables which answer their questions and stir their enthusiasm. Any Unit officer can give the basic information and your national office will contact any person whose name you send. A post card will bring an immediate response.

Every month, as editor, I break my heart trying to decide what I must leave out of the pages of the World. Such piles of wonderful material come to my desk, news items, comments on current interests, papers of interest to all our readers. The only answer is more space and this means more members, more pages from more subscriptions. Books of Catholic interest number about 200 a month. More space would mean reviews of more and more of these valuable tools. New memberships are com-

## CALENDAR OF SCHEDULED EVENTS

1952

- November 8-December 6 (Saturdays)—Second Cardinal Stritch Parish Library Workshop, Immaculate Conception School, Chicago.
- November 28 — Minnesota - Dakota Unit Conference, St. John's University, Collegeville.
- November 28—Mid-South Regional Conference. St. Agnes Academy, Memphis. Theme: Catholic Librarianship Made Practical.
- November 29—Northern California Unit—Annual Meeting. University of San Francisco.
- December 10—Greater Cincinnati Unit—Fall Meeting.

1953

- January 11—Family Communion Sunday.
- January 17—New York-New Jersey Unit. Winter meeting.
- February—CATHOLIC PRESS MONTH, sponsored by the Catholic Press Association.
- February 2-7—American Library Association. Mid-winter Meeting. Chicago.
- February 1-7—Catholic Bible Week, sponsored by Catholic Biblical Society.
- February 4—Greater Cincinnati Unit—Winter Meeting
- February 14—New England Unit—Book Forum—New England Mutual Hall, Boston.
- February 22-28 — CATHOLIC BOOK WEEK. Theme: *The Truth Shall Make You Free.*
- February 24—Catholic Authors Day, sponsored by the Gallery of Living Catholic Authors.
- April 25—New York-New Jersey Unit. Spring meeting.

. . . . .  
ing in at a most encouraging rate. We shall stretch every resource to respond in greater service. JEANNETTE MURPHY LYNN.

## \* ASSOCIATION PROGRESS \*

### New Column

This month the WORLD presents a new column on Parish libraries. Miss Monica L. Longfield of Madison, Wisconsin, has been librarian of the library of St. Bernard's Par-

More on page 97

LET'S PRAY

BASIC PRAYERS for PRIMARY GRADES

For Little People



LET'S PRAY

First Prayers  
For Little Catholics

## PLANNING PAYS IN JUVENILE PUBLISHING

MIRIAM LEACH

*Catechetical Guild Educational Society*

Art for a First Book goes through many revisions. Here, (left) Sister Juliana's rough dummy suggestions for cover, (middle) first art from Charlotte Byi, (left) finished art for book cover. Note that the children's hands have been transposed between rough art and finished art to give a more direct expression to the teaching of the smaller child.

No longer is the juvenile book the chance, happy meeting of minds between author, publisher and artist. Today, increased costs of printing and production have forced the juvenile publisher into long-range planning programs that involve long study and careful evaluation of children's reading habits and interests. In order to realize a profit on books which cost more to produce, yet sell for substantially the same price as in former years, the publisher must make up in volume sales the profit margin he loses on the individual book.

First publisher to make use of the "planned production" technique in the juvenile world was Simon & Schuster, whose Little Golden Books, priced from 25¢ to \$2.00 (for heavy-bound library editions) have sold over a million copies since 1942. Other publishers quickly followed in the 25¢ field, and the astounding success of planned book "lines" soon made itself felt in the higher-priced, cloth-bound books, of which the "Childhood of Famous Americans" series

is but one example.

These publishers, whether they are selling 25¢ or \$2.50 editions, are following the same formula of supplying the children's book field with material considered by teachers and parents to be basic in a particular age group. Every major publisher now has as an important feature of his juvenile staff an editorial board of educational experts, teachers and librarians who evaluate manuscripts, indicate their needs, and cooperate in the careful editing of all juvenile material. This pre-publication advice from experts in child needs has resulted in a general raising of the quality and educational worth of the new books.

First among the Catholic publishers to utilize the "slide rule" technique in juvenile publications was The Catechetical Guild Educational Society of St. Paul, whose "First Books for Little Catholics" are created for the four-to-eight year old child in the same format as Little Golden Books.

About 1947, the Catechetical Guild began



Father Gales, Francis McGrade and F. Robert Edman of Catechetical Guild follow LET'S PRAY through every step of production. Here, they check the artist's dummy against the script to make sure that illustrations of text are correct.

a series of studies into the need for, and requirements of, additional teaching aids in the Catholic field. European and American teaching material already available in the field was studied and evaluated; population statistics were broken down to find the areas of potential sales in the various age groups of young Catholics. Teachers, educators, and hierarchy were asked to list the areas in which they felt teaching material was both needed and lacking. An analysis of all these factors brought the Guild to its decision, in 1948, to concentrate a large portion of their program toward the education of the pre-school, primary age child. Statistically, it was found that there would be, in 1950, over two million Catholic children between four and eight years old in the United States, with at least one million of them of reading age. Research showed that this "very young" market was almost totally neglected in the Catholic educational field. Father John Thomas, S.J., in a recent article\*, echoed the general finds of the Guild in the area of

need, when he found in a study of Catholic children entering first grade in Catholic schools that less than 25% of these five year olds could recite the Our Father, Hail Mary, or Grace. Their lack of understanding of basic Catholic dogma was equally appalling.

*First Books for Little Catholics* were designed to meet these needs of the pre-school child. Interestingly enough, almost simultaneously with the publication of the Father Thomas' article, Catechetical Guild published a volume of first prayers for little Catholics, entitled LET'S PRAY, which covered all but one phase of prayer education felt by Father Thomas to be basic.

Creation of a catechetical teaching aid for volume production and sales takes careful planning. Catholic books for children must have more than the color and warmth that makes secular books salable. They must fill a specified need in the schools through which they are, for the most part, distributed. They must be integrated with religion-study plans for individual grades to be of use to teachers. Above all, they must be absolutely correct in their doctrinal teachings.

\*RELIGION AND THE CHILD, by John L. Thomas, S.J. Institute of Social Order, St. Louis 8, Mo. 12¢ each.



Francis McGrade, editorial director of Catechetical Guild, checks *A COURSE OF STUDY IN RELIGION* before sending script requirements to Sister M. Juliana, author of *LET'S PRAY*.

*LET'S PRAY*, a planned production, had its beginnings with one finding of the Guild's survey: teachers are in great need of a book that will not only present the first prayers learned by the Catholic child, but also explain and integrate them into the child's life. First step in the preparation of such a book was an evaluation of teacher needs as presented in *A COURSE OF STUDY IN RELIGION*, a basic study plan prepared by the New York Council of Catholic School Superintendents. The recurring needs on the first three grade levels were established, to make sure that the book would contain proper material for this age group.

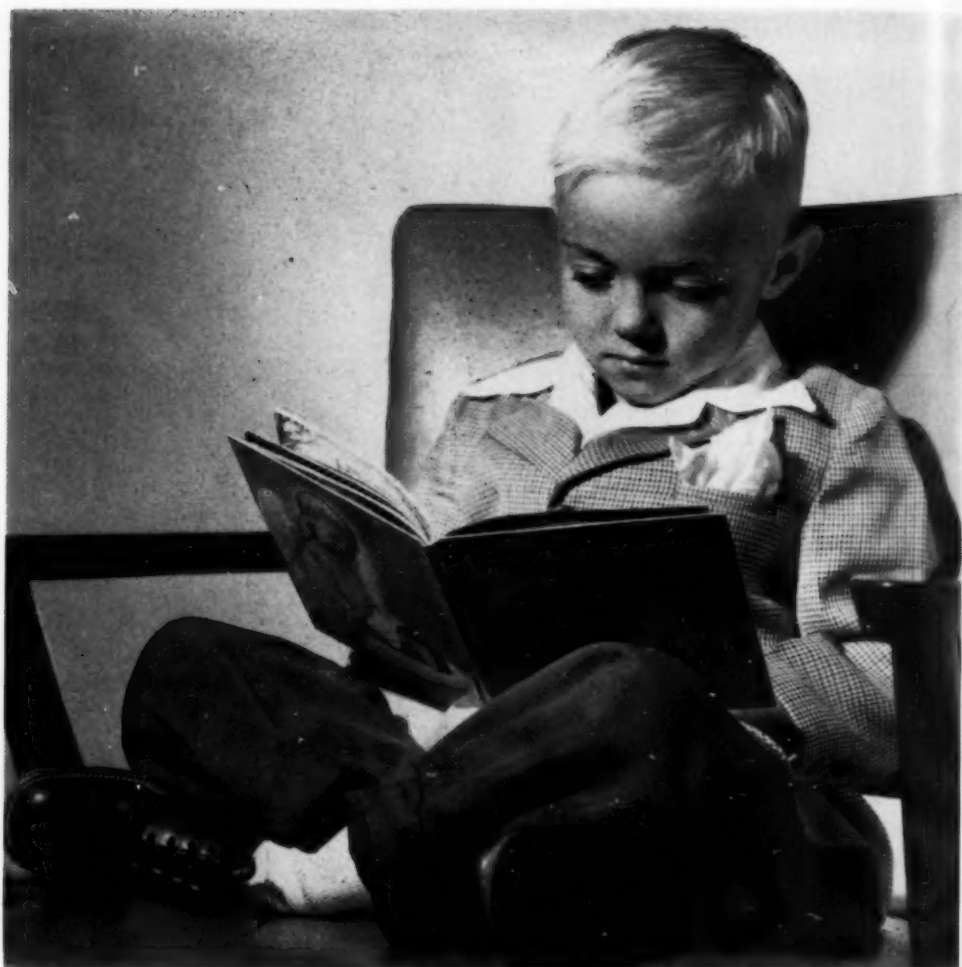
Sister M. Juliana of the Maryknoll Sisters, who is well known, not only for her best-selling juvenile publications, but also for her work on textbooks and teacher study plan material, was then requested to supply the script for the book. She responded immediately with script and rough art suggestions for a book to fill the First Book format requirements of 32 pages, simple

text, and many pictures.

The Catechetical Guild works closely with Artists and Writers Guild in New York, who helped create the Little Golden Book line, and who are considered the top authorities in the juvenile field in the production of attractive, low cost juveniles. "Since we cannot afford a million-dollar staff of our own in this non-profit organization," comments Father Gales, president of the Guild, "we are happy to take advantage of the best secular advice available." After *LET'S PRAY* had been carefully edited by the Guild staff to make sure that every statement and illustration was doctrinally sound, it was sent to Artists and Writers Guild for the additional suggestions on format, handling of text, and illustrations that would make it a colorful "best seller." Charlotte Byj, famous Catholic artist (whose illustration of the Christ Child from *LET'S PRAY* appears on our cover this month) was chosen to do the illustrations.

By the time *LET'S PRAY* went to Arch-





Half a million children in the United States are learning from LET'S PRAY why they make the sign of the Cross, what the Our Father means, who the Blessed Virgin was.

bishop Murray of St. Paul for his imprimatur, it had gone through the hands of Catholic and secular editors, teachers and superintendents, for as many as ten editorial revisions in art and copy.

Does planning pay? LET'S PRAY has already gone into its fifth printing (100,000 books per printing). *First Books for Little Catholics* have taken their places beside secular productions of similar format in the book, department and dime stores across the nation. They are receiving enthusiastic support from Catholic teachers and pastors who distribute them through schools and churches. The combination of the secular "planned production" technique and Catholic doctrine has succeeded in bringing to millions of small Catholics a greater appreciation of their faith.

### Benedictine Librarians

The Library Science Section of the American Benedictine Academy met for its third biennial conference August 19 to 21 at St. Meinrad's Abbey, St. Meinrad, Indiana, under the chairmanship of Sister Conchessa, O.S.B., of Mount St. Joseph College, St. Joseph, Minn. Twenty-five Benedictine librarians attended.

Among the principal speakers at this meeting were the V. Rev. Felix Fellner, O.S.B., archivist of the American Cassinese Congregation, who spoke on the first Benedictine press in the United States and on early Benedictine connections with the Gutenberg press; the V. Rev. Matthew Hoehn, O.S.B., prior of St. Mary's Abbey, Newark, N.J., who described problems in editing his *Catholic Authors*; and the Rev. Gerald Ecker, O.S.B., of Conception Abbey, Conception, Mo., who discussed the historiography of the Maurists.

The Rev. Adolph Hrdlicka, O.S.B., of St. Procopius College, Lisle, Illinois, was elected new chairman of the group with the Rev. Bede Gale, O.S.B., of St. Leo Abbey, St. Leo, Florida, as secretary.

REV. ERIC BEDE GALE, O.S.B.

# Children's Books for Christmas

ETHNA SHEEHAN

Superintendent, Work With Children  
Queens Borough Public Library

A few days ago I had a most heartening and rewarding experience: A Sister visited my office high in our library building and asked me to look over the selections she had tentatively made from a list of titles I had sent her. "We are planning to get the parents interested in giving their youngsters good books for Christmas," Sister Theodore explained. "If we exhibit some of the nicest new books I feel sure they'll sell themselves. Our poor children—they need recreational reading. They're starving on comics and TV."

I thought of the parents who fear that Tommy and Susie are wasting their time if they open a book other than a school book. I thought of the teachers who, term by term, send their classes to the library with lists dating from their own school days. I thought of the fathers and mothers who want their darlings to read *Peck's Bad Boy* and *Pollyanna* because such were the things one read a generation or so ago. I thought of the authors who labor and the publishers who dream and of the librarians who encourage the reading of today's fine books—and I rejoice that for once all our efforts were repaid.

Sister Theodore had begun by balancing her new titles with some tried and true older books. Her list was excellent, but somehow she had never encountered such treasures as *Mike Mulligan and His Steam Shovel*, *My Book about God*, "B" is for Betsy, *Rufus M*, *An American ABC* and *The Cottage at Bantary Bay*. We added each of these and then we went on to the current publications. It was a headache, of course—or it would have been if we hadn't had so much fun—to take the pick of the crop and yet keep within the school's financial limits.

It is so difficult to find something worthwhile for the very young that we snapped up *Look!* written and illustrated by Zhenya Gay (Viking 2.00.) This irresistible "turn-the-page" book has a succession of grand animal pictures introduced by lines of gay rhyme. *All Ready for Winter*, by Leone Adelson, (David MacKay 2.00) has a shade more body. The jolly, informative, repetitive text encourages any reader of six and under to figure out for himself how creatures prepare for winter and where they go. The big question is: How do you get ready for winter and where do you go? Kathleen Elgin's warm illustrations are jolly or tender or vigorous or cosy, in tune with the varying mood of the story.

Roger DuVoisin's silly goose has made many friends in her previous stories (*Petunia*, Knopf, 1950, *Petunia and the Song*,

Knopf, 1951). In the new *Petunia's Christmas*, illustrated as usual by the author (Knopf, 2.00) our friend is filled with compassion for a handsome gander. Charles is destined for the holiday axe and it is Petunia's self-imposed task to earn the wherewithal to save her loved one. It is touch and go, but all ends in the most perfect way imaginable. Just count the little goslings. Four-to-six-year-olds will get a lot out of this.

Planes, jets, space ships and rockets have their place, but one of the deepest mysteries in the library world is the universal pre-eminence of trains. The train of the season undoubtedly is Nellie, the heroine of Rowland Emmet's *New World for Nellie*, illustrated by the author (Harcourt 2.00). Nellie's devoted crew take their weirdly wonderful charge on a journey through America, where their adventures rival the tallest tales that ever came out of the Wild West. It is just possible that the very British text will be too subtle for our ordinary five-to-eight-year-olds, but the fullpage illustrations with their amazing and fascinating detail practically speak for themselves.

There is nothing at all subtle in the picture-story written by Sally Scott and illustrated by Beth Krush called *Benjie and His Family* (Harcourt 2.00), and yet the adult who buys it for his six-to-eight-year-old niece or nephew may find that the jolly tale hits home. Walter and his father and mother are all chronic worriers in their particular fields. When an oversize dog adopts

them the worries are merged and after a series of happenings they find themselves with just one worry: What will they do if an owner turns up to claim Benjie. Let me hasten to scotch any gnawing fears: Everything ends happily.

One look at Alice Dalgliesh's story *The Bears on Hemlock Mountain* (Scribner 2.00) and decision is a foregone conclusion. For this delightful story is told in clear, well-spaced text, and gay illustrations by Helen Sewell in the Pennsylvania-Dutch tradition. A big question in Jonathan's mind was answered the day his mother sent him over the mountain to bring back an oversize cooking pot. Yes, there were bears on Hemlock Mountain, but Jonathan was smart enough for them. For ages seven to nine.

Miriam E. Mason has written a number of stories of pioneer child life for the younger age groups. She also writes of animal life. Her book *A Pony Called Lightning* (Macmillan 1948) has been well liked, and now its independent sequel *Broomtail; Brother of Lightning*, illustrated by William Moyers (Macmillan 2.00) bids fair to share its success. The wild pony gallops over the prairie, is broken by the Indian, is ridden by a white child, and goes out of the story galloping once more wild and free, this time having achieved his innermost desire. For ages eight to ten.

Perhaps the most heartwarming story of the whole season is *Lost Dog Jerry*, by Tom Robinson, illustrated by Morgan Dennis (Viking 2.50). This junior *Lassie-Come-Home* is the saga of a good-natured, gentlemanly Saint Bernard who was accidentally carried hundreds of miles from home and found his way back to his young master after a series of believable adventures. There is no sentimentality, no humanizing, in this unpretentious book for boys and girls nine to twelve.

A good family story is nearly always a safe choice. *Family Grandstand*, illustrated by Robert Barber (Viking 2.50) is the first story Carol Rylie Brink has published in some time. It is decidedly worth waiting for. The Ridgeway children's claim to fame is twofold: All summer their lawn has been mown by a football hero, and now in fall they can watch the college games from their own tower at the top of their home. The narrative involves a neat intermingling of the children's problems concerning finances and the hero's worries regarding grades.

Most boys enjoy sports stories: the problem is that the majority of sports stories are directed to the same age level—the upper one. *Junior Quarterback*, by William Heuman (Morrow 2.50) is doubly welcome, for this well-written story has something about human relationships and character development in general, in addition to football lore, and it is definitely aimed at the middle age group. For boys ten to twelve.

*The Mystery of Burnt Hill*, by Keith Robert-

son (Viking 2.50) moves at a fast clip from the first chapter when Neil and Swede do a good turn for quaint, spunky little old Miss Hankin and are given the old desk that may have belonged to her smuggler great-uncle. The boys' interest is no more than mild until they notice the suspicious behavior of Clem Auerbach, the furniture refinisher. They are not amateur detectives for nothing and between them they manage to make things somewhat uncomfortable for Clem before his own partner in crime brings things to a satisfactorily tingling denouement. Plenty of action in a well-written story with wonderful dialogue for boys eleven to fourteen. Too bad it is told in the first person.

*The Fork in the Trail*, by Val Gendron (Longmans 2.75) is a superior pioneer story. Wint Hanners is travelling to California with an emigrant train when he loses his wagon. He heeds the advice of scout Charlie Clemens and camps near the trail, trading horses to the emigrants. Wint grows in many ways during his weeks alone, and thus he is strong enough to make a mature decision when conscience wars with self-interest. Fast and provocative reading for boys twelve to sixteen.

*Thunderhead Mountain*, by Margaret Ann Hubbard (Macmillan 2.75) is a thoughtful story which opens with a thrilling incident involving a white boy, an Indian youth and a fierce horse. The book settles down to describe Kip's friendship with his Sioux friend Cloudy, their misunderstanding, and Kip's gradual development in self-discipline. The setting for this story is an actual mountain where the sculptor Korczak Ziolkowski (who figures in the book) is cutting a gigantic statue of the Indian hero Crazy Horse from the living rock. A distinguished story for better readers twelve to fourteen.

There are so many outstanding stories for older boys this fall that it is hard to call a halt. Reluctantly I shall omit mention of the sports stories and the science fiction books which clamor for attention, but I cannot leave out *Halfway to Heaven*, by Ruth Adams Knight (Whittlesey 2.75). This most unusual book tells with reverence and understanding of the hard work and spiritual struggles of a youth who entered the Saint Bernard Hospice in the Alps in the final year of the eighteenth century. Joseph loves the monastery dogs, especially the great dog Barry whom he has brought into the world, yet he is made to realize that a man who is spiritually dedicated must subordinate all his love to the love of God. For serious-minded boys—and girls—in the upper teens.

Teen-age girls who enjoy some romance along with spirituality will find both in *Tamar*, by Gladys Malvern (Longmans 2.50). This moving story is built up from the Gospel miracle of the daughter of Jairus. Tamar and her parents become interested in the work of the Messiah even before the tremendous miracle occurs. They heed His message and Tamar witnesses His death and rejoices in His resurrection. When material misfortune ensues upon their conversion Tamar discovers the wonderful paradox, that now she is free to marry the Roman youth who had loved her in vain while she lived under the Old Law. This is a truly reverent book, steeped in Biblical atmosphere. Catholic readers may find a phrase



or two to object to, but there can be no actual criticism.

Helen Dore Boylston's Sue Barton who has appeared over the years as heroine of a most popular series of stories takes another bow in *Sue Barton, Staff Nurse* (Little, Brown 2.75). While her husband is being treated for tuberculosis Sue resumes her nursing career. Problems arise and work piles up, but there is fun too to enliven her months in a rural hospital. Plenty of incident, not much plot, and enough nursing atmosphere to please the most avid fan.

A new quirk motivates the plot of *Milestone* by Esther E. Carlson (Abelard 2.50). Janet Lee damages a house when she is involved in an automobile accident. The judge suggests that she earn the costs during the summer, and her parents send her off to work at a resort hotel. Janet has quite a big chip on her shoulder at first. How it falls off almost unregarded is told in a story that emphasizes dependability, thoughtfulness, and domestic skills while bringing in all the romantic trimmings teen-age girls enjoy.

Very seldom does the modern farm girl come into her own in a well-written story spiced with romance. *Thanks to Letty*, by Dorothy Burke (Rand, McNally 2.75) is unpretentious in plot but true to life in setting and action. Sixteen-year-old Letty has to assume responsibility for the family after the death of her father. Her thoughtless older sister wants her to give up the farm and move to town, but Letty realizes all the factors involved and resolves to hold on to the property she loves. The struggle is often discouraging; the work is strenuous and there is the inevitable debt hanging over the family, yet Letty is cheerful and affectionate and she and her mother and her good-natured young cousin win out, and the reader is left with the satisfactory knowledge that a certain young man will shoulder Letty's problems before too long.

Boys and girls who will not be tempted to try a story by any cajolery will often welcome a book of information. *Mr. Bell Invents the Telephone*, by Katherine B. Shippen (Random House 1.50) is published as a *Landmark Book* and like the other titles in the series is attractively printed and bound. The text is smoothly written, broken up by direct discourse, and each action-filled chapter leads breathlessly into the following one. The invention is the important thing in this book, yet it is well balanced with biographical detail. For average readers ten to twelve. Older boys who are slow readers should enjoy it as well.

A straight biography in the romantic vein is *Lady Jane Gray, Reluctant Queen*, by Marguerite Vance (Dutton 2.75.) This captivating reconstruction of the short and tragic life of Tudor England's "Nine-Days' Queen" points up the pageantry of the sixteenth century while it emphasizes the goodness and beauty of Jane's character. Nedda Walker's illustrations are exquisite. For girls twelve and up.

*It's Fun to Cook*, by Adele de Leeuw (Macmillan 2.75) is readable as well as informative. While not a complete cookbook it contains enticing recipes for salads, desserts, cookies, etc. The racy commentary will make any reader actually believe that cooking *is* fun.

It goes without saying that any list directed to Catholic children would be sadly lopsided with-

out religious material. Up to fairly recently it would have been difficult indeed for a reviewer to find even one or two books whose literary style did justice to their inspirational content. There are still a deplorable number of titles published whose format and approach frustrate the possible value of the material. Why don't Catholic publishers wake up to the possibilities of friendly, dignified writing framed in enticing format with clear, well-spaced print? There are plenty of expert writers of general books for children who would do a wonderful job, I feel certain, if only they were encouraged. However, the field is not altogether barren. In St. Paul, Minnesota, the Catechetical Guild is striving to bring attractively illustrated little religious books within the reach of any parent who can spend twenty-five cents on his child. *A First Life of Christ for Little Catholics*, by Father Gales, illustrated by Bruno Frost, relates the life of Christ in brief sentences from the point of view of His Mother. In *The Rosary for Little Catholics*, by Francis McGrade, illustrated by Bruno Frost, each mystery of the Rosary is explained and illustrated, and the whole is intergated with the family Rosary. Sister M. Juliana's *Let's Pray: First Prayers for Little Catholics* is the most felicitous: The prayers, their background, and Charlot Byj's dainty illustrations tie together into a unit to delight any child.

From The Grail, St. Meinrad, Indiana, we receive *Our Lord Jesus Christ*, by Mother Paula Williamson. This tender little biography is written with definite understanding of the points that appeal to a child of seven to ten. Sister Mary Gertrude's black and white drawings are most attractive; the print is well spaced. The trouble is the format—and the price: The book has a flimsy cover of stiff paper with spiral binding, and the cost is 1.25.

*A Modern Martyr*, adapted by Edward A. McGurkin from the full text by Bishop James Anthony Walsh (McMullen 1.50) should impress both boys and girls if they do not pass it by because of the dull format and close print. This biography of Blessed Théophane Vénard leans heavily on the young martyr's letters home to France from what is now Vietnam. These letters are moving and witty, full of drama and brimful of spiritual wisdom. No boy or girl eleven to fourteen can read them without admiring this humble and lovable priest whose tremendous love for God and souls led him so far from the family who were always in his thoughts.

Here they are—the books suggested for Sister Theodore's Christmas exhibit. If only Sister had money to spend and I had space and time to list them, there would be several more. I have mentioned above that I was obliged to omit science fiction stories and sports books for older boys. I must also leave out the books of science and nature that I should like to describe. And—much as I dislike to do this—I must forbear to discuss verse or fantasy. But—I do hope someone will get hold of C. S. Lewis' latest story of the people of Narnia: *The Voyage of The Dawn-Treader* (Macmillan 2.75). This is a must for the child who loves magic and wonder and the loveliness of words and for the adult who can still drift off on a sea of allegory, wafted by soft winds of enchantment.

## BOOKS DISCUSSED IN THIS ARTICLE:

- \*Adelson, Leone. *All Ready for Winter*; illus. by Kathleen Elgin. MacKay. 2.00.
- Boylston, Helen D. Sue Barton, Staff Nurse; illus. by F. W. Orr & M. Felton. Little, Brown. 2.75.
- \*Brink, Carol R. *Family Grandstand*; illus. by Fern & Robert Barber. Viking. 2.50.
- \*Burke, Dorothy. *Thanks to Letty*. Rand McNally. 2.75.
- \*Carlson, Esther E. *Milestone*. Abelard. 2.50.
- Catechetical Guild publications. 147 East Fifth St., St. Paul 1, Minnesota.
- \*Dalglish, Alice. *The Bears on Hemlock Mountain*; illus. by Helen Sewell. Scribner. 2.00.
- De Leeuw, Adele. *It's Fun to Cook*. Macmillan. 2.75.
- Duvoisin, Roger. *Petunia's Christmas*. Knopf. 2.00.
- Emett, Rowland. *New World for Nellie*. Harcourt. 2.00.
- \*Gay, Zhenya. *Look!* Viking. 2.00.
- Gendron, Val. *Fork in the Trail*; illus. by Sidney Quinn. Longmans. 2.75.
- Heuman, William. *Junior Quarterback*; illus. by Joseph Bolden. Morrow. 2.50.
- Hubbard, Margaret Ann. *Thunderhead Mountain*. Macmillan. 2.75.
- Knight, Ruth A. *Halfway to Heaven*; illus. by Wesley Dennis. Whittlesey. 2.75.
- Lewis, C. S. *The Voyage of the Dawn Treader*; illus. by Pauline Baynes. Macmillan. 2.75.
- McGurkin, Edward A. *A Modern Martyr*. McMullen. 1.50. (Adapted from the book by Bishop J. A. Walsh.)
- Malvern, Gladys. *Tamar*. Longmans. 2.50.
- Mason, Miriam E. *Broomtail, Brother of Lightning*; illus. by William Moyers. Macmillan. 2.00.
- Robertson, Keith. *Mystery of Burnt Hill*; illus. by Raffaello Busoni. Viking. 2.50.
- \*Robinson, Tom. *Lost Dog Jerry*; illus. by Morgan Dennis. Viking. 2.50.
- Scott, Sally. *Benjie and His Family*; illus. by Beth Krush. Harcourt. 1.75.
- Shippen, Katherine B. *Mr. Bell Invents the Telephone*; illus. by Richard Flothe. Random House. 1.50. (Landmark Books)
- Vance, Marguerite. *Lady Jane Grey, Reluctant Queen*; illus. by Nedda Walker. Dutton. 2.75.
- Williamson, Mother Paula. *Our Lord Jesus Christ*; illus. by Sister Mary Gertrude. Grail. 1.25.

\*Junior Literary Guild Selection.

## AT YOUR SERVICE

### From Reference Aids

**SISTER MARY CLAUDIA, I.H.M., Editor**  
*Mary Grove College, Detroit, Mich.*

### DOCUMENTS OF PIUS X

*All Things in Christ*, encyclical letters and selected documents of Blessed Pius X, has just been issued by Saint Helena's Workshop (1943 Palace Avenue, Saint Paul, Minn.). Edited by the Reverend Vincent A. Yzermans and accompanied by an introduction by the Most Reverend Peter W. Bartholome, coadjutor bishop of St. Cloud, this volume promises to fill a large gap in our document reference collections. The volume, beautifully designed and lithoprinted, contains the English translation of Pius X's sixteen encyclical letters and ten other documents, preceded by the address of Pope Pius XII on the occasion of the beatification of Blessed Pius X. So far as our records show, this is the first time *Il fermo proposito* (June 11, 1905) and *Singulari quadam* (September 24, 1912) have appeared in an English translation. This preliminary edition has been issued for limited circulation in the hope that suggestions and criticisms received may be incorporated in a revised and enlarged printed volume.

### IRISH MANUSCRIPTS

The Urs Graf Verlag (Berne, Switzerland) has announced plans to reproduce in color a collection of Irish medieval manuscripts in the Foundation Library in St. Gall, Switzerland. The edition will be done in the manner of the famous facsimile of the *Book of Kells* and will be of both artistic and historical interest. Publication is planned for 1953. Orders may be placed with the American distributor, Philip C. Duschnes, 66 East 56th St., New York 22.

### SPINSTERS?

All who have Havemann and West's *They Went to College* (New York, 1952) based on data gathered by *Time* staffworkers in 1947, will be interested in Lynn White's "Do Women's Colleges Turn Out Spinsters?" (*Harper's Magazine*, October, 1952), and "Catholic College Spinsters?" by John L. Thomas, S.J. (*Social Order*, October, 1952). The latter article is based on a study of 40,000 graduates of Catholic women's colleges and shows notably different figures than those reported in *They Went to College*.

### YOU MAY BE INTERESTED

*Serial Slants*, official organ of the Serials Round Table, is now being edited by Elizabeth Kientzle, John Crerar Library, Chicago, Ill. The publication is available, to members only, at \$1.00 per year. For information write to: Miss Shirley Taylor, Secretary-Treasurer, 2533 Durant Ave., Berkeley, California.

The Orchard Books (Burns, Oates), the well-known series of spiritual classics long out-of-print, are now available in a new edition. The first volumes to appear are *The Rule of St. Benedict* (in Latin and English) translated and edited by Abbot Justin McCann, O.S.B.; the *Revelations of Divine Love*, by Juliana of Norwich, edited by Dom Roger Hudleston, O.S.B.; and *The Cloud of Unknowing and Other Treatises*, by a fourteenth-century English mystic, also edited by Abbot McCann. The volumes have been completely revised and are being issued in a larger format than the original editions.

# Saint Santa Claus—and Your Library

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The author of *Saint Santa Claus*,\* Mrs. Ruth Rounds, was the special guest of the Elementary Schools Libraries Round Table held during the Annual Conference of the CLA at the Nathan Strauss Branch, New York Public Library, June 26, 1952. Miss Catherine Butler, Librarian of the Carnegie Library of Homestead, Pa., and chairman of the Round Table, has sponsored a long range program of public library school cooperation.

Homestead high schools are now graduating seniors who began their acquaintance with libraries in the fourth grade through the "Know Your Library Project." Through the cooperation of Mrs. Blanche Brauneck, Librarian of Nathan Strauss Branch and the Sister-Librarian of Sacred Heart School, a demonstration session gave those present opportunity to watch the children's reaction to this presentation.

Sponsored by the Friends of the Library, Carnegie Library plays host yearly to the fourth grade pupils of each of the six public and six parochial schools in its area.

Classes accompanied by a room mother and their own teacher come to the library. It is assumed that the children are not particularly interested in books or in libraries. They are interested in things around them, in people, in associations and experiences. By clever questioning library-users among the pupils are brought to relate their experiences in the library. The history of the library and its donor, Mr. Carnegie, a resident of the area, are made very real. Good library manners are discussed, the care of books, hobbies and books, the usefulness of

*Editor's Note:* Because the subject of the Elementary Schools Round Table meeting at our June Conference was especially suitable for Christmas time, we have held this summary for the December issue. It is regrettable that space is too limited for a full report. Teachers and public librarians who would like full details, sample invitations and other materials may obtain them by writing to Miss Butler at Carnegie Library of Homestead, Munhall, Pa.

\*Dutton. \$2.25.

## "KNOW YOUR LIBRARY"

*A Program of Library-School Cooperation*

by CATHERINE L. BUTLER,  
Librarian Carnegie Library  
of Homestead, Pa.

classification, and the relation of an author to his book. It is emphasized that books are people, both their characters and the people who make the books.

This latter point is used to acquaint the children with alphabetical arrangement, especially of fiction. A group of children, standing before the class are arranged in order of their surnames. Then each child is given a card with the author and title of a book upon it. The books are found on the shelves by the children, checked by library assistants and a prize awarded the child finding the most correct books. Blown-up photographs of catalog cards lead to an understanding of the catalog, and its relation to alphabetical order.

A book for reading aloud is presented to each class. Each child writes a review of this book and the art classes of the schools are asked to compete in designing a cover for the best review. These are judged by a committee of Friends of the Library.

At the close of the school year, an Assembly for all fourth graders, is held. The author of the year's gift book is presented to the students and the best reviews are bound in the best cover and given to the author. Selected reviews and covers are put on display for this session. Other awards are special book marks for "reviewers" and cover artists, a certificate for each class having 100% library users, and the Friends of the Library make it possible for a boy or girl in each Fourth Grade class to have a copy of the year's chosen book autographed especially for them by the author at this Assembly. Proud parents are included in this Assembly audience. Each child receives a specially-designed book mark as a souvenir.

The results of these continuing introductions of all school children to the resources of their library, both printed and human, are intelligent, constant use of the library during and after school years, aid to teachers in encouraging reading, and excellent

public relations with parents, schools and graduates. The project is worthy of imitation and adaptation on the initiative of either the school or the library.

Mrs. Rounds, as her part of the demonstration, told of her experiences in writing her delightful story of St. Nicholas of Fleuri, patron of mountaineers, who comes to the aid of two children, the only survivors of a plane crash in the Alps on a

Christmas Eve. Sister Laurentia, who appears in the book, is modeled upon Sister Gabrielle of Carney Hospital, South Boston, a friend of the author. Marie McSwigan, author of *Snow Treasure*, *Our Town Has a Circus* and *The News is Good* cooperated in the early stages of writing the book. Miss McSwigan, who lives in Pittsburgh, has appeared two years at the Fourth Grade Assembly as the "Real Live Author."

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## The Critic As Catalyst\*

Rev. HAROLD C. GARDINER, S.J.  
Literary Editor, *America*

I am going to be bold enough, with your kind indulgence, to take a new departure in this discussion. I am *not* going to try to tell you why we don't have more top-notch American Catholic authors—why we do not have novelists to rival the English, the Irish and the French. The fact that we do not is evident and little would be gained by recounting the fact here. *Why* that fact is a fact, I do not know. Is it because most of the English authors are converts and so have the converts' zeal? Well, and where does that leave the Irish, who do not have to be converted *from* anything or *to* anything, save perhaps from a little too much anticlericalism, and when they are converted from that, strange to say, they frequently seem to be converted to poorer authorship. Or is the fault with our education? According to Dr. Conant of Harvard in a recent address, most college graduates do not know how to spell and write, and yet it is the non-Catholic college graduates, by and large who do the good creative writing. Our Catholic graduates, we like to think, can spell and write—at least grammatical sentences—yet they do not write the books. Do we just need more time? I am personally inclined to think that that is a large part of the total answer. But it is not the whole answer. To give that whole answer, we will have to take two things into consideration, and those two things are what I want to dwell on in the rest of this analysis of American Catholic letters.

I would like to lump both considerations together under the general heading "A great reading public." I am not an economist—thank God—and so I have but a dim idea of what the so-called law of supply and demand means, but I do believe that something like that operates in the field of culture. There is a school of thought that holds that something like that operates in the field of history—great times develop and reveal the great man. At least there is a possibility that if there were a great body of intelligent mature, discriminating, eager, critical, perfection-demanding Catholic readers in this country, there might possibly arise a body of writers who simply would have to write so as to satisfy that demand. The writers, indeed, would probably arise directly out of that body of readers.

I am not saying that there is not a large body of such readers. It is large numerically—though I have no means of counting noses for you. I know something about their numbers both through the frequent lectures I give on literary matters and my work as Chairman of the Editorial Board of the Catholic Book Club. In fact, I have written to this effect in the recent religious book issue of the *New York Herald Tribune*. We can rejoice that there is a large body of intelligent readers and that that body is growing. But it is not growing strongly and vocally enough to supply the demand for better and better American Catholic authorship and I am inclined to believe this lack must be at least part of the cause for scarcity.

\*Paper read at the 26th Annual Conference, June 26, 1952.



Why the tardiness of the demand? We may adduce two reasons. Both reasons will have particular relevance to librarians.

The first reason for too few mature and penetrating readers is that there are too few thoughtful and penetrating Catholic critics—call them book reviewers, if you will—though I for one believe that any real reviewer will also be to a great extent a true critic. And second, there are too few good critics because many a critic mistakes his role and that mistaken view is fostered in him because Catholic readers demand that the critic do something he ought never to do.

What do too many Catholic readers demand of the critic? They think that his job is either to recommend or condemn a book. He must, they think, either praise or damn a book. "Tell us," they say, "whether this is a good book or a bad book. Lay it on the line—either we can read this book or we cannot. Say just that and don't mince words."

What they are looking for, in other words, is a confessor or a Boy Scout counselor or a Dorothy Dix, or somebody on whose shoulder to lean. Now, the fact is that there are relatively few books published every year which are so clearly good or bad—in either the moral or the artistic sense—that they can be openly and forthrightly damned or praised. If they are so black and white, there is really no need for the critic to enter into the picture at all.

It is precisely in the area of those books that are called controversial that the critic begins to exercise his real function. And what is his function here? It is not to make up people's minds for them. Let me repeat: *it is not to make up people's minds for them.* The function of the critic is to bring to bear on a piece of controversial literature—and the controversy may be purely in the field of literary values or in the field of philosophical and moral values—what light he can from a thorough and sympathetic reading of the work, from his knowledge of the period or problem treated, from his acquaintance with the author's prior works and so on—to bring to bear from all these contributory factors an estimate of the work which will help the reader make up his own mind. The critic is not to impose his opinion on others. And

this is particularly true when the opinion has to do with matters of taste.

It is not the critic's function, if I may use a concrete example, and not even the function of a Catholic critic, to dogmatize on what people are to think about *The End of the Affair*. Here, as in similar works, the critic's fundamental judgments have to be simply these three: what was the author endeavoring to say; second, was it worth saying and perhaps, even, important that it be said; and third, how well did he say it. A critic's knowledge of what Mr. Greene was trying to say might perhaps be keener than the appreciation of the ordinary reader because the critic might well be expected to know, from his knowledge of Greene's development, the trend or slant of his consistent thought. Second, the critic might be better equipped to tell whether Greene's message was worth saying and important because the critic might well be expected to show how great drives and fundamental impulses of human nature are themes of tremendous import in themselves and therefore worth the telling. And lastly, the critic might be better equipped to judge how well the story was told because presumably the critic is one who is sensitive to the beauty and functional quality of style.

But granting all this in an ideal critic, he is still not equipped to tell people whether they ought or ought not like the particular book. If the critic has fulfilled this three-fold role adequately the reader should find in the criticism whether or not the particular book has the objective qualities that make it likable. But there are many things in themselves likable which many people, for reasons of environment, education, temperament and all the rest, do not like. In other words, the critic's job is ultimately the simply-stated, but laborious, job of putting into the reader's hands tools which will enable the reader to read appreciatively, judiciously and critically in his own way and so to make up his own mind in evaluating the book.

Here, I believe, is where librarians can to some extent share the burden with the critic. I am not familiar down to intimate details with the technique of librarianship.

But certainly from time to time, particularly in the smaller libraries connected with schools, the librarian is asked for opinions about books. I suppose that in some instances the librarian is asked to map out a rather consistent reading course for people. In these circumstances I believe that the librarian should not usurp the individual reader's prerogative, the prerogative of making up his own mind.

The second reason why there are too few, though there are many, truly mature and intelligent readers among Catholics who read widely is that there is among Catholics a fairly deep suspicion of the type of book we often see referred to in the secular press as a 'challenging' book. This word 'challenging', of course, is frequently overworked and applied in contexts that are simply silly. If the author himself does not use the word 'challenge' in this deluded fashion (to which I will refer immediately), you can be sure that the ad-writer certainly will. This distorted use of the word 'challenge' is frequently found particularly in novels in which the character does not examine and weigh any particular set of moral values but simply throws them overboard.

A book like the recent *Caroline Cherie*, for example, in which the heroine passes lightheartedly from lover to lover until the total is staggering, will be said to be challenging traditional, conventional attitudes toward marriage and fidelity. In such a story there is absolutely no *challenge* of the values which have upheld the sanctity of marriage. There is simply a flouting of those values. I challenge an opinion in order to test it. Some time ago at Yankee Stadium, Sugar Ray Robinson challenged Joey Maxim. It was a challenge because there was some equality between the two men. We would hardly say that Sugar Ray could validly challenge Ethel Barrymore. And so frequently in the so-called challenging books a straw man (generally moral standards of some sort) is set up only to be pushed over with ludicrous ease.

But there is another sense in which books challenge with full validity. This is the sense in which books, even novels, awaken in us a realization that the application of

moral values has to be consistently rethought. The moral principles are eternal and immutable but their practical use will differ in emphasis, in focus, as the circumstances in which they are applied change. Let me give an example here. Most people, most Catholics, I imagine, have some fairly sound ideas about the necessity of the virtue of justice. Perhaps, however, that word conjures up little in the mind of a given individual except justice in monetary matters—Thou Shalt Not Steal. Along comes a novel which awakens a realization in the reader that justice is much wider than this, that it extends to really all phases and aspects of the relationship of man to man. This reader has perhaps heard of things like interracial justice, social justice, but maybe not until he has read a *Cry, the Beloved Country* will the truth really strike home to him that discrimination against others because of color, race, creed and what not is not only a social malaise but a moral delinquency—a failure in justice.

In other words, this reader has been forced to challenge his own conception of justice to see how valid it was, whether it was all-inconclusive enough, whether it was a mere theory or a practical moral imperative. Challenge in this sense is really equivalent to an examination of conscience. We don't examine our conscience in order to brush off the accusations it brings against us but to face those accusations and shape our lives accordingly.

Frequently many a modern novel is challenging in this way, but obliquely, and by indirection. John Marquand, I believe, sets before the reader the general query, posed most politely and most urbanely and never with raised voice—"what is missing in this type of life I am so meticulously and sympathetically anatomizing?"

Some time ago Mr. Mark Schorer, writing in the *New York Times Book Review* (April 27, 1952) touched upon this point. As a matter of fact he touched on these two aspects of a great reading public that I am discussing. He remarked:

Critics of literature have the same essential function as teachers of literature: this is not to direct the judgment

of the audience but to assist that audience in those disciplines of reading on which any meaningful judgment must rest.

This is his reflection on my first part. As to the second, namely the challenge of literature, he has this to say:

All education, whether out in "life" or only inside schools, is a double-jointed process: up to a point it consists almost entirely in a process of learning to accept and to conform; then, presently, it shifts and becomes a process of learning to reflect upon and to question every standard that has first been presented for acceptance and conformity. To cease to be savages we must learn the first; to be civilized we must learn the second.

We probably would, as I have suggested earlier, clarify Mr. Schorer's statement of the necessity of "questioning every standard." We would rather say the particular application of the standard here and now.

An undue rigidity and inflexibility which is unfortunately a characteristic of one type of Catholic is undoubtedly one great reason behind the negative criticism of authors like Graham Greene. Wedded to the idea and rightly so, that marriage, for example, is a lovely and holy thing, the inflexible Catholic will think that any portrayal of it on a lesser plane is a denial of its fundamental

value. This inflexible mind will fail to see that precisely through an examination of how marriage can be and is degraded, one can come to a realization of the loveliness and beauty that has been sold short.

Here again, I believe the librarian working in the practical field of actual book distribution can, by judicious advice, alert people about what should be looked for in a novel like the two I have used for examples.

These two approaches, namely a growing realization of the critic's proper function and a parallel growing realization of the novel's power to effect a re-thinking in today's terms of changeless standards, can go far, I sincerely believe, in developing a great reading public. And I mean "great" both in the quantitative and the qualitative sense. When we have got a large body of Catholics who have learned to read in this way we will stand a better chance than we do now of getting a body of Catholic writers capable of satisfying such a body of readers.

There is an interesting movement for modesty in dress which you may have heard of. It is called "supply the demand for the supply," by which is meant that if enough Catholic girls demand modest type dresses, stylists and designers will come up with the type of dress that will supply the demand. I believe the same process can obtain in the field of Catholic letters. If readers will demand good books, good in all senses of the word, writers will rise to fill the bill.

#### MARYWOOD COLLEGE DEPARTMENT OF LIBRARIANSHIP 1952 GRADUATES

Anita Joseph, Sister, SSJ, Assistant Librarian,  
Villa Maria Academy, Erie, Pa.

Bohan, Mrs. Mary K., Branch Librarian,  
Wilkes Barre Free Public Library, Parsons, Pa.

Campbell, Alice Marie, Assistant Librarian,  
St. John's University, Brooklyn, N.Y.

Cunningham, Carolyn, Assistant,  
Undergraduate Division, Univ. of Illinois Library, Chicago

Eagen, Sally, Branch Assistant,  
King George County Library, Hyattsville, Md.

Emma, Sister M., SS.C.M., Teacher-Librarian,  
St. Joseph's High School, Hazleton, Pa.

Herrman, Jeannette, Librarian,  
Waverly High School, Waverly, N.J.

Keary, Joan, Post Librarian,  
Fort Holabird, Baltimore, Md.

Kujda, Sally, Branch Assistant,  
New York Public Library, New York, N.Y.

Miller, Hannah Elliott, School Librarian,  
Sarasota High School, Sarasota, Fla.

Mullaney, June, School Librarian,  
University of Scranton Prep School, Scranton, Pa.

Sapanaro, Victoria, School Librarian,  
Dunmore Junior High School, Dunmore, Pa.

Seh, Jean, Young Adult Librarian,  
Great Neck Public Library, Great Neck, L.I., N.Y.

Sullivan, Ann, Children's Librarian,  
Columbus Ohio Free Library, Columbus, Ohio

Trotzski, Theodosia, School Librarian,  
Kingston High School, Kingston, Pa.

Vujica, Mrs. Nada, Librarian,  
Wilkes College, Wilkes-Barre, Pa.

# American Catholic Biography at Mid-Century

Rev. FRANCIS BEAUCHESNE THORNTON  
Book Editor, *The Catholic Digest*

Writing for a group of librarians is a terrifying and sobering experience. The average man can take books or leave them—and he generally does. He goes about his work of making a living and paying his taxes—in these days the latter bulks large—and if he thinks of books at all it is in imitation of the airy patter of Gertrude Stein: “a book is a book, is a book.”

The librarian has nothing of this cavalier attitude toward the universe of books. He is at once a high priest, a torch passer, a loaner and a lover of books, a man or woman of grave competence who understands cataloging and the 57 varieties of book lists; a man or a woman who can deliver an oracle with a solemnity of countenance that would make the Roman Sybils look like the barkers at a circus peep show.

Before I started this paper, I consulted a great many people up to the moment when I was content to sit down and write. To one eminent friend I fired off a letter which said in part, “If you were writing on American Catholic Biography at Mid-Century what attitude would you take?” The answer to my query came back by return mail. It was brief. “American Biography at Mid-Century? But where are your names? Get out the Bruce Catalogue.” That was all.

It didn't sound promising but like most unpromising things it gave my mind a big push and started cerebration of a sort. By comparison with English and continental achievement in the field of biography we seemed to have nothing of prime value on first sight. Jorgensen, Papini, Mauriac, Undset, Bernanos, Waugh, Chesterton and Belloc, to mention only a few, what names could we put beside these masters? I didn't see the answer to the question at first because I was thinking solely of American Catholic biographers. But the answer can-

not be found in such narrow thinking. I lifted my sights and my horizons a little and asked myself a wider question. How does all American biography compare with the work of English and continental writers? The honest answer must be the words of Shakespeare, “Comparisons are odorous *me falta palabras*.”

The whole question came into proper perspective with the second answer. In order that we may weigh the true value of what American Catholic writers had achieved in this half century a short and dispassionate review of American literary history is necessary.

No nation springs full panoplied from the brain of Jove. There is a time of beginning, a time of seed, of bud and flower. The United States is still several decades away from its two hundredth anniversary and though our present international agonies give evidence of a forced growth under the probing green finger of history, our literature, like all literature, cannot be forced beyond those qualities of soul and body, of insight and love of form that are the inevitable marks of great writing.

During the past two weeks I have been re-reading Van Wyck Brooks' two charming volumes, *THE FLOWERING OF NEW ENGLAND* and *THE CONFIDENT YEARS*. It is easy to be carried away by the amiability of the writing which is a kind of nostalgic re-creation of periods and places as carefully done as a Hollywood film of the gay nineties or the old frontier days. But my thought was on meaning rather than manner and as I moved half hypnotically through the pages I was unconsciously setting them against the backdrop of world literature.

The New England flowering was an obvious graft from the flowering in England; soil, atmosphere, the whole complex climate of the new land communicated a different scent and appearance to the blossoms but they paled before the gorgeous blooms of the old stock. Emerson might achieve some

\* Father Thornton spoke at the Second General session of the Annual Conference, June 28, 1952. Father Code has requested that his challenging paper on American Catholic history be held for his revisions. It will be published at a later date.



currency in world literature, and Longfellow might find scattered admirers in Rome and Vienna, but compared with the world influence of Coleridge, Byron or Wordsworth, Keats and Shelley, the American writers are seen to be influential chiefly in England. The colonies had been lost in fact and regained in fiction. The Boston accent was still the London accent and the Oxford accent, at the mercy of the New England nose and palate. Imitation was still the sincerest flattery. The English were quick to see that, and they responded with cultured applause in their criticism of American writers which sometimes leads us astray and makes us fancy that the flowering of New England was more important than it actually was.

American literature wanted to be something in itself: it felt in the greatness of the new land intimations of a new immortality. It desired to communicate those intimations to the world but all it achieved was a more or less silent partnership in a mutual admiration society. Does this seem to be harsh judgment? I think not.

It was two rebels against the whole tissue of admirations and mannerisms that first achieved a massive effect on world literature: Edgar Allen Poe and Walt Whitman. Poe became the tutelary spirit of modern French poetry, and Whitman the god of all the free poets who fought the confining rules of academies and the classic spirit. These two, up to the end of the nineteenth century, had achieved some kind of world-wide audience. They spoke with a new creative voice.

What then? Have we progressed beyond this point? We have indeed. Twain, Pound, Eliot, Dreiser, Lewis, Faulkner, Steinbeck, Hemingway, Cather, O'Neill, Whitehead and Dewey have found a world-wide audience. They have become in fact leaders in the new world of letters that is presently being born. For the first time in our literary history they have made us respected in a massive way for something we are in ourselves rather than something we imitate. It is not my purpose here to comment on the value of their contribution. The fact of their massive impact is my concern at this point, and the further fact that this astonishing change from being followers to leaders in literature has been achieved approximately within the space of the last 50 years. In that period Poe and Whitman have come into their own, and American literature has

become a prominent voice in the world of letters.

Let us consider the mid-Western influence on our present position in literature. Something important might be done with the speculation that a country finds its soul and its voice beyond its first frontiers, where in the presence of the wide night sky, the voices of mighty rivers, and in an atmosphere of omnipresent danger a man discovers himself for the first time, and the soul speaks out with an authentic voice. Contemplation is inherent in these circumstances, and contemplation begets significant literature, expressed in the new accent that is "the ever old weaving the ever new." It is in this light that I understand Twain, Pound, Eliot, Cather and all the others who have helped us to declare ourselves in a literature that is really American.

It would be exciting and stimulating to follow this digression, but the important thing is the realization by those who were born at the end of the nineteenth century or the beginning of the twentieth century that we have seen in our lifetime an extraordinary literary development. We have grown from an echo to a voice. The set of sawmill circumstances in which I grew up have widened out into international frames of interest. Out of the whole achievement of these years I have been asked to measure the value of a specific part. Some will say "no fifty years could be that important." But consider. I remind you of the fifty years in which Shakespeare was writing, or the fifty years of writing time that gave us *Don Quixote*. American Literature has become an important part of world literature. What of biography? It has not so far lived up to the excellence of our work in the field of poetry or the novel. Considering the best things at the top level, there are only a select few: THE EDUCATION OF HENRY ADAMS, THE AUTOBIOGRAPHY OF LINCOLN STEFFENS, ALICE B. TOKLAS, and Whittaker Chamber's WITNESS. This may appear excessively choosy, but if these works are compared with the biographies of the English and continental masters, whether Catholic or not, you will see quite clearly that these biographies are of a depth and altitude which makes them unashamed to walk in the company of the great. In short they are more than multi-level explorations of human living because they have the form and the radiance which distinguishes genuine works of art. Below

this level of authentic art, there are a host of histories of people: literary figures, Hollywood celebrities, and tycoons of the stripe of Andrew Carnegie. Achievement in the field is good but not great.

The same sort of judgment must be made for Catholic works in this field. I realize only too well that a strange man named Blanshard and an odd lad named Sugrue find it hard to admit that Catholics are Americans at all, except in the most maimed and truncated use of the term. This Hallowe'en spirit had managed to bring out a number of masks and goblins, that are about as real as those masks and trappings children use to frighten themselves on the eve of All Saints.

Catholic writers of biographies can hardly be expected to produce a higher level of writing than other authors of their nation. We are the largest minority, it is true, but our fathers came here with less than the average peasant and it is only lately that our intellectuals have achieved an audience outside their own circles.

Yet if we look at the biographies written by Catholics in the last 50 years there is cause for moderate satisfaction and a great deal of hopeful expectation.

Early in this century a tremendous amount of research was begun at Catholic University. Most of this work centered about the lives of the bishops and missionaries, significant in the early life of the American church. Most of this writing, it must be confessed, is heavy and inartistic. It reminds me of the gold and silver layer cakes that used to be brought out on festive occasions when I was a child. There is usually a paragraph of comment followed by four or five paragraphs of quotation. The result is a kind of pastiche that can be best read in the middle of sleepless nights. This is of course only true in part. Much has been accomplished. Those who will come after the early researchers, the Catholic Catheters of the not too distant future, will find their work done up in neat packages. Some of the work is far better than that, of course, Guilday's *LIFE AND TIMES OF BISHOP ENGLAND* or Father Dolan's *LIFE OF BISHOP KENDRICK*, for example.

On the next ascending level of accomplishment there is a great mass of respectable and even excellent work.

Theodore Maynard has given us a long series of biographical studies, well constructed and offering scope to his delightful

sense of irony. Maynard is a craftsman of the first order. I confess that I often wish he had carried over into his prose something of the insight and color of his early poetry, but his achievement in the field of biography is solid and compares favorably with the good work being done by other American writers.

Next in importance to Mr. Maynard, in the extent of her work, is Agnes Repplier. Her *PERE MARQUETTE* and *MERE MARIE OF THE URSULINES* are fine, but to my way of thinking they pale before the hilarious delight of *IN OUR CONVENT DAYS*.

Katherine Burton has given us two excellent studies: *SORROW BUILT A BRIDGE* had a depth not too evident in the portrait of PIUS X, but both have great charm of manner and warmth of expression. Agnes Repplier and Katherine Burton are well-seconded by a group of brilliant women. Katherine Bregy in her study of MARY STUART, Helen Walker Homan in vignettes of the martyrs, Helen C. White with *FATHER SERRA* and Dorothy Day in her autobiography, *THE LONG LONELINESS* and, of course, Imogene Guiney's *HURREL FROUDE*.

Actually there is an embarrassment of riches which deserve some mention, though there is hardly time to name them. Many of us may have forgotten Charlie Phillips' enthusiastic biography of Paderewski, Father Talbot's *SAINT AMONG SAVAGES*, Feeney's *SURVIVAL TILL SEVENTEEN* with its whimsical homespun charm, *THE HIGH ROMANCE* of Michael Williams, and Bishop Kelley's *THE BISHOP JOTS IT DOWN*. Moody's *THE LONG ROAD HOME* and *JOHN HENRY NEWMAN* are also important, as is Father Finn's *SHARPS AND FLATS IN FIVE DECADES* and Budenz's *THIS IS MY STORY*. Gene Fowler's *SCHNOZZOLA* offers comic relief, and Dante del Fiorentino in *IMMORTAL BOHEMIAN* reaches us a nosegay of Puccini memories. The excellence of his study provides a convenient contrast with the rather wooden character of De Wohl's novelized biographies of St. Thomas and St. Augustine.

It is clear, from this incomplete list, that there is a respectable body of work which will bear comparison with the near best being done by American biographers. There is much more to be said, Father Bonn's biography of *DANNEMORA* and Richard Sullivan's story of Notre Dame are both signifi-

cant for the future. By the use of impressionistic techniques, these two authors have paved the way for a new biographical manner in keeping with modern ways and modern minds.

In the contrary fashion condemned by the Steward at Cana of Galilee, I have kept the best wine for the last, for I see in Anderson's BIOGRAPHY OF A CATHEDRAL, William Thomas Walsh's ISABELLA THE

CRUSADER and Merton's SEVEN STORY MOUNTAIN the cream of the crop: three books which are deeply significant in meaning, which have radiance and form that distinguishes the true work of art.

There are solid reasons for satisfaction in what has been accomplished by American Catholic biographers in these first 50 years of the twentieth century. Present signs point to deepening of that effort in the future.

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## Parish Libraries

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### An Arm-Chair Workshop of Library Helps

At long last, the "step-children" of the Catholic library field, "the parish library workers," are going to be heard by the Catholic Library Association . . . and we hope get help on our many problems through an exchange of ideas.

Each month we will have this two-column page, open to questions and suggestions. It's your page. Share with others the ideas that prove worthwhile. And if you have a question, ask it! Replies will appear the second month after inquiry.

### BOOKS FOR CHRISTMAS

Encourage your parishioners to give books, particularly Catholic books for Christmas. For men, women and children! You might offer to buy these books for them and earn something for your library fund. At least suggest certain books for Christmas gifts. Perhaps the list opposite will help. There are many favorites that never grow old. "Women of the Old Testament" by Norah Lofts will surprise and please even the most sophisticated woman reader. "Gall and Honey" by Eddie Doherty will appeal to men, Catholic and non-Catholic. For those who love to read and don't mind a thick book, the "Wisdom of Catholicism" offers a year's reading pleasure. For children's books, check the December number of THE SIGN MAGAZINE as most years their December issue carries suggestions for children's books. If you kept your December 1950 copy of THE CATHOLIC LIBRARY WORLD you will find a splendid list of children's books prepared by Lucy Murphy of Buffalo.

### PREPARATION FOR JANUARY

During the month of December, working people, those who make most use of parish libraries, will be too busy to read much. But the first week in January begins a lull in activities, and your reading circulation steps up. *Now is the time* to make up lists of your new books, your reading suggestions, and have them ready to be posted on church bulletin boards, and on the walls of your library, right after New Year's Day.

More heavy reading will be done in January. Why not stress the different biographies you have on your shelves? And those books that run to more than 300 pages. Group on your library walls the publishers' colorful paper jackets of these books. If you like, pick a special group of biographies and put them together on a top shelf (but

at eye level, within easy reach), or show case, to bring them forcefully to the attention of your readers.

### THE INDEX OF FORBIDDEN BOOKS

Mrs. Lynn, of the CLA office, says she has had many questions about books on the INDEX. The average parish library need not be too concerned, for unless recently placed thereon, no American authors are on the INDEX. There is a recent book, "What is the Index" by Rev. Redmond A. Burke, C.S.V. (Bruce) priced at \$2.75. Many books, however, are covered by the "law of the Index." Any book which endangers faith or morals is forbidden, unless the individual's confessor gives permission to read it for good reason. Parish libraries may well be guided by established Catholic reviewers. We will consider these sources in detail in later issues.

Beginning with the January number, watch the column on the opposite page for evaluation of current books for parish libraries.

### Libraries For Laymen

Rita Keckeissen  
St. Peter's Catholic Lending Library, New York.

Before we discuss *what* a library for laymen should be, or how one might operate, I think we must consider "Why a library for laymen?"

Monsignor Moore, late pastor at St. Peter's, who founded St. Peter's Library on Barclay Street, summed up this question: "How necessary is a Catholic Lending Library? What role does it play? Today we know that the Catholic laity stands in the front rank of the militant Church. Catholic men and women are called upon, perhaps more than ever before to answer that glorious and terrifying challenge given to the followers of Christ, 'Go into the whole world and preach the gospel to every creature.' And all Catholics today must be witnesses for the truth every day to those they meet in business and social life.

"This 'Apostolate of the Mind of Christ' emphasized repeatedly by the Holy Father as the sacred calling of all laymen, finds its leadership to a large extent in the great Catholic writers, whose works in every field of human thought and

Miss Keckeissen read her fine report on St. Peter's library at the Round Table on Library Service to Catholic Readers, June 27.

endeavor provide a background for the sane Christian consideration of current problems.

"The Catholic library is the 'powerhouse' of this vital lay apostolate. The parish lending library puts 'power' where it is most needed, readily accessible to busy laymen. Its primary object is to provide the best expression of the mind of the Church. It serves as a convenient and reliable source of reference on problems arising in personal, social and business life." With this as our object, let us make our library a collection of selected books of Catholic authorship in fields of Catholic interest.

As to fields of Catholic interest: first, *doctrine*: this is an inexhaustible field and good studies on the popular level as well as more technical and scholarly works are in great demand. Interest in *liturgy* is growing and the liturgical movement has a whole literature of its own. It is vitally important to lay Catholics, for liturgy is the basis of spirituality. *Lives of the saints* form a popular collection at St. Peter's as does *biography* of great laymen. *History*, principally church history, *spiritual reading*, *sociology*, *philosophy*, *literature* and a large selection of *fiction* for light reading comprise our larger collections. Other classifications are *poetry*, *travel*, *art*, *science*, *psychology*, and *education*.

Careful, critical book selection is important. Few books gathering dust in the attics of the neighborhood are suitable. Keep requirements for inclusion high so that books irrelevant to Catholic thought, history or interest do not clutter up your shelves, and defeat the purpose of a Catholic library.

Using this principle for selecting books, let us look at a few other basic considerations.

In general, there are two kinds of Catholic libraries, that in a residential parish which will serve its members evenings, Sundays after Mass and weekends, and the Catholic library such as St. Peter's, located in a business area where thousands of Catholics work but do not live. Such a library will be open business hours on business days. Some problems will be common to the two types, other questions will be peculiar to each.

Any library, no matter how small or seemingly insignificant, should follow strict regularity in opening hours. Its operation requires some system of careful workmanship under the direction of a responsible person. The system does not have to be complicated. The simpler it is the better, but it must be efficient.

Stability in personnel is important. You need someone, not necessarily a professional librarian, who has some background in Catholic thought and writing; the sort of person who will take the time to find out what kind of a book a person needs or wants. Such a librarian gets to know the members, their preferences, their reading tastes. The service of regular personnel easily increases use almost automatically.

For residential parishes, the problem of where and how to make a beginning is always troublesome. Does a library of a thousand books, or even one of two or three hundred sound impossibly ambitious? Be courageous enough to start then on a small scale. Perhaps with a reading group of a dozen or so people who would each buy a book to read, exchange with others in the group and donate to the library. St. Peter's, which now contains six thousand books started with four hundred. Perhaps one of the parish

societies has already a core of books it would be willing to give or lend as a nucleus of a general parish library. Many a library has been started through the generous gift of a priest's personal collection for parish use.

Such ventures grow gradually. One important means will be book donations. People are generous and willing to help. Accept books, of course, but make the provision that books unsuitable for the library will be disposed of.

Every library faces these questions. Others are met in the library situated in a business area, and I should like to tell you a little about some special features of St. Peter's as an example of this second type.

We maintain an affiliation with the Catholic university libraries of Fordham and St. John's, the Catholic colleges in the metropolitan area: Manhattan, St. Peter's and Manhattanville and with the Cardinal Hayes High School Library. With an introduction from our librarian, our members can use these large collections for specialized work not available in our own collection. The agreement is especially valuable for our members who are studying at non-Catholic institutions, for it makes accessible to them resources of large Catholic collections for their further study. We have also on our list of affiliated libraries, one specialized library, that of Dun & Bradstreet whose Business Library is devoted to books on industry, economics, business management and related subjects.

Some years ago we had compiled as a guide to reading at St. Peter's, and to Catholic reading in general, two pamphlets called CATHOLIC BOOKS FOR LAYMEN. They are annotated book lists, one devoted to non-fiction, the other is a classification and commentary on fiction titles.

Our next venture was even more ambitious. It is a detailed subject index and guide to the contents of close to five thousand contemporary Catholic books in doctrine, philosophy, history, social sciences, education and biography listing over thirteen hundred subjects. Under each subject heading, references are made to whole books and parts of books. The file includes some three hundred cross-references and covers all the major and minor subjects on which questions are likely to be asked. Some day it may be available in book form for all libraries and information centers generally. A sampling of entries reads *Church and State*, *Creation and the Fall of Man*, *Papal Infallibility*, *Indulgences*, *Mystical Body*, *The Inquisition*. Under each topic books on the subject are listed, and chapters or parts of books on the subject.

There was one note on our last annual report that pleased Monsignor Moore more than any other. This was the number of religious vocations among our members. In eight years, eighty-two men and women have entered various religious houses. Monsignor regarded this as "the validation . . . of our conception of the library as a vital and true apostolate." One girl who entered a nursing community told us that it was her reading at St. Peter's that first directed her mind to such service.

We are doing our best to extend to ordinary laymen the opportunities which Catholic schools and colleges offer Catholic students to pursue subjects which interest them most, to study the Catholic answers to human problems, to learn more about their Faith.



## SOME 1952 BOOKS FOR PARISH LIBRARIES ☆ TOO GOOD TO MISS ☆

*Each month this column will be devoted to brief annotations of titles especially sifted for parish libraries and Catholic information centers. We shall try to keep it most selective and as far as possible in advance of publication.*

- THE WORLD'S FIRST LOVE, by Bishop Fulton J. Sheen. McGraw. \$3.50. A tribute to the Mother of God.
- CATHOLICISM & AMERICAN FREEDOM, by James M. O'Neill. Harper. \$3.50. The answer to Paul Blanshard.
- THE STRANGER, by Malachy G. Carroll. Bruce. \$2.75. A novel of a defrocked Irish priest.
- THE SILVER CHALICE, by Thomas B. Costain. Doubleday. \$3.85. Story of the cup of the Last Supper.
- WITNESS, by Whittaker Chambers. Random. \$5. The Hiss-Chambers case—especially recommended by Catholic reviewer.
- PSYCHIATRY & CATHOLICISM, by Van der Veldt & Odenwald. McGraw. \$6. Book for general reader as well as specialist.
- SECOND HONEYMOON, by M. M. Musselmann. Crowell. \$3. Life at 50 can be fun travelling in France and Spain.
- DON CAMILLO AND HIS FLOCK, by Giovanni Guareschi. Pellegrini. \$3. That lovable parish priest and his inimitable associates. (The original, "The Little World of Don Camillo", a 1950 best seller, is available at reprint prices.)
- THE GATES OF DANNEMORA, by John L. Bonn, S.J. Doubleday. \$5. With prison stories appearing in secular man-read magazines this year, it is well to have this most interesting Catholic book in your library.
- THE MAN ON A DONKEY, by H. F. M. Prescott. Macmillan. \$5. A novel of Catholicism in 16th century England.
- CHRIST IN THE HOME, by Raoul Plus, S.J. Pustet. \$4. Answers so many commonplace problems of family living.
- GOD IN OUR DAILY LIFE, by Hilda Graef. Newman. \$3.25. Offers good and sensible advice to men and women—and some forceful persuasion.
- SAINTS FOR NOW, by Clare Booth Luce. Sheed. \$3.50. Excellent for those who may doubt the relevance of sanctity.

*Begins on page 78*

ish for many years. She is Parish Library Chairman of the Confraternity of Catholic Doctrine for the Madison Diocese.

Every Catholic finds his spiritual home in his parish. If our Catholic school graduates are not to lose the habit of good reading, and if those who have not had the advantage of Catholic schooling are not to be lost to the Catholic press, they must have books at the one place they visit weekly. A third column will include books especially selected for parish libraries.

## PHILADELPHIA AREA UNIT ☆

The first meeting for the 1952-53 season was held at St. John's Hall on Sunday, October 12, at 2:30 P.M. Rev. Vincent Schneider gave the invocation.

Miss Margaret Mary Henrich, chairman, introduced the other new officers, Brother Edmund Joseph, F.S.C., Vice-Chairman, Miss Jane Hindman, Secretary. She also read a letter of congratulation to Brother Ignatius on the celebration of his silver jubilee as a Christian Brother.

It was announced that Miss Betty Feeney, one of our members, is one of the winners of the Christopher Award Contest. Miss Feeney said that her essay was based on the work of the Philadelphia Area Unit. She is to be the new editor of the *News Letter*. Miss Mary Higgins will be Associate Editor.

Miss Henrich spoke on the values of national and Unit membership.

In observance of Bible Week, Rev. Bartholomew Fair, J.C.D., librarian of St. Charles Borromeo Seminary, spoke on "Gutenberg, the Man and His Work." Father Fair's timely discussion gave a clear picture of the monumental task Gutenberg set for himself in printing the Bible set in movable type.

JANE HINDMAN  
Secretary

## SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA UNIT ☆

The Southern California Unit of the Catholic Library Association held its annual fall meeting Saturday afternoon, October 11, 1952, at St. John's Seminary, Camarillo. Reverend James W. Richardson, Chairman, presided. His Excellency, Archbishop J. Francis J. McIntyre, honored the meeting by his presence and welcomed the members to St. John's. Then Father Richardson introduced the new officers of the Unit. Chairman, Mother John Frances, Mayfield School of the Holy Child Jesus, Pasadena; Vice-Chairman, Father Theodore J. Marshall, Librarian, Loyola University, Los Angeles; Secretary-Treasurer, Gladys English, Immaculate Heart High School, Los Angeles. Council members are Brother John Bresnahan, Villanova Preparatory School, Ojai; Sister Catherine Anita, Mt. Saint Mary's College, Los Angeles; Mother Constance, Marymount College, Los Angeles; and Sister Mary Ruth, Immaculate Heart College, Los Angeles.

In celebration of Bible Week, a distinguished exhibit of the rare Bibles of the Estelle Doheny collection in the Seminary Library had been prepared. Through the generosity of the Countess Doheny, a bibliography of the Bibles, compiled by Father Richardson, Father Pansini and Miss Lucille Miller, was presented to the members. This bibliography was printed by Ward Ritchie.

Reverend F. David Pansini, Professor of Sacred Scripture, Hebrew and Greek at the Seminary, gave a learned but far-too-brief talk on "The Transmission of the Bible," tracing and explaining the changes in ancient times. The meeting was then adjourned for further study of the exhibit, followed by refreshments, served on the library terrace by the young seminarians.

GLADYS ENGLISH,  
Secretary

## CATHOLICA ANTIQUARIA

A new list of elusive and interesting books of Antiquarian character, referring to the rise and progress of the Church, Theology, and Doctrine, with numerous biographies and Catholic maps is now available.

### ARGOSY BOOK STORES

114 East 59th Street  
NEW YORK CITY, 22

#### "ORDER" LIBRARIANS

Looking forward to the Annual Conference to be held at Columbus, Ohio, April 7 to 10, we wonder if there are not more groups of librarians of the orders and congregations among our members who would like to meet together, exchange news and ideas, and consider common interests. The Jesuit librarians, and the Christian Brothers have done this for several years. The Benedictine Librarians Conference is considering such a meeting next spring. If there are others, the World will be happy to announce their meetings, and print their announcements in the official program. Plan at once and notify the Association office.

#### Letter to the Editor:

I received, recently, a copy of a release which should have the attention of Catholic librarians, especially since C.L.A. has manifested, as it should, professional interest in the matter. In my article "Quandaries for Book Selectors: 'Give Away' Schemes and Book Clubs," which appeared in vol. 17 (1945-56) of the CATHOLIC LIBRARY WORLD and in an Executive Council decision of December 28, 1945, condemning the so-called "15 for 1" scheme of selling subscription books, we have made our views clear. However, almost seven years have passed and possibly the awareness of the problem has diminished with time.

I hope that you will give immediate publicity to the most recent "cease and desist" ruling. We should object to the principle involved. Certainly no parochial school, teacher, librarian or principal, would approve use of the plan by any company and librarians should be alert to eliminate this practice. And parents, doubly so!

WILLIAM A. FITZGERALD  
Director, Library School  
Peabody College for Teachers

## A "SUPPLEMENT" TO THE CATHOLIC SUPPLEMENT

Helen L. Butler, Ph.D.

To answer questions which often come about *Standard Catalog for High School Libraries* titles which are particularly useful to Catholic schools, and to aid Catholic students who obtain their books from the public library, the Committee for the CATHOLIC SUPPLEMENT has prepared the following list of titles found in the SCHSL, 1952. It is not a complete list of all the "Catholic" titles, but rather those which the Committee recommends. In each case, the tone of the whole book has been considered as well as incidents depicted and language used.

Decimal  
Class

BAKER, N. B.	He wouldn't be king (Bolivar)	92
BENZ, F. E.	Pasteur	92
BEST, H.	Watergate	Fic
BOLTON, I. M.	Son of the land	Fic
CARNAHAN, A.	The Vatican (note)	945.6
CARR, M. J.	Young Mac of Fort Vancouver	Fic
CATHER, W.	Death comes for the archbishop	Fic
CATHER, W.	Shadows on the rock	Fic
CHANDLER, C. A.	Famous men of medicine	920
CHESTERTON, G. K.	Father Brown omnibus	S C
CHUTE, M. G.	Geoffrey Chaucer of England	92
COATSWORTH, E. J.	Door to the North	Fic
COE, D.	Marconi, pioneer of radio	92
COLUM, P.	Adventure of Odysseus	883
COLUM, P.	Children of Odin	293
COLUM, P.	Golden Fleece	292
CONSIDINE, R. B.	The Panama Canal	986.3
CONSIDINE, R. B.	The Babe Ruth story	92
CRISS, M.	Isabella, young queen of Spain (note)	92
CRONIN, A. J.	The citadel	Fic
DALY, M. (ed.)	My favorite stories	S C
DALY, M.	Perfect hostess	642
DALY, M. (ed.)	Profile of youth	136.73
DALY, M.	Seventeenth summer	Fic
DALY, S. J.	Blondes prefer gentlemen	395
DALY, S. J.	Party fun	793
DALY, S. J.	Personality plus	395
DALY, S. J.	Pretty, please	646.7
DAVIES, S.	Young marchesa	Fic
DUBOS, R. J.	Louis Pasteur	92
DUNLAP, O. E.	Marconi	92
EATON, J. N.	Buckey O'Neill of Arizona (note)	92
EATON, J. N.	Young Lafayette	92
FARJEON, E.	Ten saints	920
FITZGERALD, W. A.	Study librarianship (pam)	020.69
FREEDMAN, B. and M.	Mrs. Mike	Fic
GIBSON, K.	Goldsmith of Florence	709.945

- GODDEN, R. . . . . Candle for St. Jude . . . Fic  
 GODWIN, S. and E. . . . . Roman eagle . . . Fic  
 GOUDGE, E. . . . . Gentian Hill . . . Fic  
 GOUDGE, E. . . . . Reward of faith . . . S C  
 GUARESCHI, G. . . . . Little world of Don Camillo . . . Fic  
 GRAY, E. J. . . . . Adam of the road . . . Fic  
 HAYES, C. J. H. . . . . Brief history of the Great War . . . 940.3  
 HAYES, C. J. H. . . . . Political and cultural history of modern Europe . . . 940.2  
 HAYES and MOON . . . . . Ancient and medieval history . . . 930  
 HAYES and MOON . . . . . Modern history . . . 909  
 HAYES, C. J. H. et al. . . . . History of Europe . . . 940  
 HAYES, C. J. H. et al. . . . . World history . . . 909  
 HEMON, L. . . . . Maria Chapdelaine . . . Fic  
 HOGEBOOM, A. . . . . Christopher Columbus and his brothers . . . 92  
 JEWETT, E. M. . . . . Hidden treasure of Glaston . . . Fic  
 KANE, H. . . . . Bride of fortune . . . Fic  
 KELLER, J. G. . . . . Government is your business . . . 323.6  
 KELLY, E. P. . . . . From start to star . . . Fic  
 KELLY, E. P. . . . . Land of the Polish people . . . Fic  
 KELLY, E. P. . . . . Trumpeter of Krakow . . . Fic  
 KENTON, E. . . . . With hearts courageous . . . 970.1  
 KIERAN, J. . . . . Footnotes of nature . . . 574  
 KIERAN, J. . . . . Introduction to birds . . . 598.2  
 KIERAN and DALEY . . . . . Story of the Olympic Games . . . 796.48  
 KJELGAARD, J. A. . . . . Explorations of Père Marquette . . . 92  
 KUGELMASS, J. A. . . . . Louis Braille . . . 92  
 LANSING, M. F. . . . . Liberators and heroes of South America . . . 920  
 LAVERY, E. G. . . . . Magnificent Yankee . . . 812  
 LEAHY, F. W. . . . . Defensive football . . . 796.33  
 LEAHY, F. W. . . . . Notre Dame football . . . 796.33  
 LEIGHTON, M. C. . . . . Judith of France . . . Fic  
 LENN and REARDON . . . . . Pope Pius XII (note) . . . 92  
 LIEB, F. G. . . . . Connie Mack . . . 92  
 LOVELACE, D. W. . . . . Rockne of Notre Dame . . . 92  
 MCGILLICUDDY, C. . . . . Connie Mack's Baseball book . . . 796.357  
 MCGILLICUDDY, C. . . . . My 66 years in the leagues . . . 92  
 McNALLY, E. E. and A. . . . . This is Mexico . . . 972  
 MALKUS, A. S. . . . . Colt of destiny . . . Fic  
 MALORY, T. . . . . Boy's King Arthur . . . 398.22  
 MARTIN, B. . . . . Miracle at Carville . . . 616.9  
 MEANY, T. W. . . . . Babe Ruth . . . 92  
 NEWCOMB, C. . . . . Black fire . . . Fic  
 NEWCOMB, C. . . . . Cortez the conqueror . . . 92  
 NOLAN, J. C. . . . . LaSalle and the grand enterprise . . . 92  
 NOYES, A. . . . . Sherwood . . . 822  
 O'SULLIVAN, M. . . . . Twenty years a-growing . . . 941.5  
 OURSLER, F. . . . . Greatest book ever written . . . 221.95  
 OURSLER, F. . . . . Greatest story ever told . . . 232.9  
 OURSLER, F. . . . . and W. C. . . . . Father Flanagan of Boys Town . . . 92  
 PAINE, A. B. . . . . Girl in white armor (Joan) . . . 92  
 POLO, M. . . . . Travels of Marco Polo . . . 950  
 PRICE, C. . . . . Three Golden nobles . . . Fic  
 ROOS, A. . . . . Man of Molokai . . . 92  
 ROTHERY, A. E. . . . . Iceland . . . 949.1  
 ROTHERY, A. E. . . . . Iceland roundabout . . . 949.1  
 ROTHERY, A. E. . . . . Italian roundabout . . . 945  
 ROTHERY, A. E. . . . . Norway . . . 948.1  
 ROTHERY, A. E. . . . . Rome today . . . 945.6  
 ROTHERY, A. E. . . . . Scandinavian roundabout . . . 948  
 ROTHERY, A. E. . . . . South American roundabout . . . 980  
 ROY, G. C. . . . . Where nests the water hen . . . Fic  
 SIENKIEWICZ, J. . . . . Quo vadis . . . Fic  
 STEPHENS, J. . . . . Crock of gold . . . Fic  
 STURE-VASA, M. A. . . . . My friend Flicka . . . Fic  
 STURE-VASA, M. A. . . . . Green grass of Wyoming . . . Fic  
 STURE-VASA, M. A. . . . . Thunderhead . . . Fic  
 SULLIVAN, M. . . . . Our times (6v) . . . 973.9  
 SYME, R. . . . . Champlain of the St. Lawrence . . . 92  
 SYME, R. . . . . Cortes of Mexico . . . 92  
 TAPPAN, E. M. . . . . When knights were bold . . . 940.1  
 THOMPSON, B. J. (ed.) . . . . . Silver pennies (note) . . . 821.08  
 THOMPSON, B. J. (ed.) . . . . . More Silver pennies . . . 821.08  
 TRAPP, M. A. . . . . Story of the Trapp family singers . . . 92  
 UNDSET, S. . . . . Happy times in Norway . . . 948.1  
 WASNER, F. . . . . Trapp-family book of Christmas songs . . . 783.6  
 WEBER, M. L. . . . . Beany Malone . . . Fic  
 WEBER, M. L. . . . . Beany and the beckoning road . . . Fic  
 WEBER, M. L. . . . . Meet the Malones . . . Fic  
 WERFEL, F. . . . . Song of Bernadette . . . Fic  
 WHEELER, O. . . . . Paganini . . . 92  
 WOOD, L. N. . . . . Pasteur . . . 92
- Also recommended are the following titles, dropped from the 1952 edition of the SCHSL:
- ANGELO, V. . . . . Hill of little miracles . . . Fic  
 BENZ, F. E. . . . . On to Suez! . . . 92  
 CARRELL, A. . . . . Man, the unknown . . . 572  
 MCGUIRE, P. . . . . Westward the course . . . 990  
 MARSHALL, B. . . . . World, the flesh and Father Smith . . . Fic  
 NEWCOMB, C. . . . . Larger than the sky . . . 92

EDITOR'S NOTE: Reprints of this list are available from this office for fifteen cents each.

### ☆ THESE ARE YOUR TOOLS

The CATHOLIC SUPPLEMENT to the *Standard Catalog for High School Libraries* (H. W. Wilson Co.) and BOOKS FOR CATHOLIC COLLEGES (ALA) are edited by committees of the Catholic Library Association. Your purchases, your support of these tools, are essential if these lists are to continue to serve Catholic readers.

This month we give the floor to Brother Frank A. Deibel (Institute of Marianist Studies, Glencoe, Mo.) who wrote the provocative editorial in the May issue as our guest editor. He asked, "Why Not a Book Club for the High School?" Unfortunately the issue of CLW appeared too late for reading prior to the Convention in New York and we are afraid the topic may be lost and buried, whereas it deserves serious consideration. In Brother's editorial, he stated that no club exists for the group "tossed around by afternoon jobs, by dates, by sports, by everything under the sun." Several existing groups as the Don Bosco and TAB do not meet Brother's requirements for the High School Book Club he outlined the reports that several people have written him about his editorial. Mr. Charles R. Butler replied for the Catholic Children's Book Club pointing out that the high school librarian is often a full-time staff member and can devote time to selecting books, which is seldom true in the elementary schools where the CCBC operates.

Hence, is there a market for a high school club? It does cost money to procure subscriptions. As a member of the Book Selection Committee of TAB, I have had some thoughts on the matter also. From time to time we select titles objectionable to Catholics and these are noted accordingly. A few days ago I prepared a long memorandum for the Committee reflecting the Catholic viewpoint on such matters as science and religion—having rejected several science possibilities. On the basis of a dozen Catholic reviews of *THE CARDINAL* in which the negative seemed to outweigh the positive, the Committee has decided not to use this particular title for any school. I would like to ask, what is wrong with our present clubs? Show us by some thorough analysis of existing clubs what they are not doing for Catholic high schools. And why ignore the Young People's Division of the Literary Guild? There may be other similar clubs we need to know more about before venturing into developing a new proposal. Let us do a bit of research on this and to invite Brother Frank and other interested parties to continue the discussion both in this column and on the convention floor in Columbus, Ohio, next April.

We realize that this does not engage the larger problem of book clubs in general—their advantages and disadvantages. The best way to select books for your particular library is for the librarian to do it but this is more theory than practice due to the inability of many librarians to see and read books before selection. I am personally on the side of book clubs which select carefully through boards of experts, give you new books in better editions than the trade can provide, give the books to you at a discount better than you can obtain alone, send advance information on books, authors and artists and help in other ways. We might add that TAB had developed a handy kit of a manual, membership record, order form, publicity, lists of selections and reprints.

## AIDS FOR GRADE SCHOOL LIBRARIES

We wish to report a new book selection service the MB NUBOOK CARDS developed by Marie Bergren, P.O. Box 585, Oak Park, Illinois. Perhaps you saw the ad in the September ALA Bulletin. 3" x 5" cards containing all the necessary book ordering information together with the issues of magazines containing reviews of the books, are sent for all new juveniles for \$15 per year. All the fall juveniles come about October 1st—some six hundred cards, and the spring juveniles April 1. Replacement cards come January 1 and July 1. This sounds very practical for larger libraries, centralized purchasing agencies and the like. Again let me know your opinion about this latest contribution.

## NEW WAYS OF LIGHTENING THE LOAD

We have received and heard four new recordings based on the Landmark Books. They are *Paul Revere and the Minute Men* adapted from the book by Dorothy Canfield Fisher, *Our Independence and the Constitution* also by her, these being two sides of the same record; *Building the First Transcontinental Railroad* from the book by Adele Nathan, and *The Wright Brothers, Pioneers of American Aviation* by Quentin Reynolds, also two sides of the same record. These are Long Playing, 33 1/3 rpm, unbreakable although they can be obtained in the standard 78 rpm speed in two record sets. They follow closely the books by the same titles. We found them better done than the previous four titles, the sound effects better, the music very appropriate and the full measure of drama drawn out of the stories. The 78 rpm records cost \$2.95 and the lp's \$3.75 and they can be obtained from Enrichment Records, Inc., 246 Fifth Ave., N.Y. 1, N.Y. We spent an enjoyable hour listening to them before typing up our copy, hearing the debates over the adoption of the Declaration of Independence and the Constitution, the boyhood and thrilling ride of Paul Revere, the Chinese and Irish building the great railroads across our new nation, and the Wright Brothers experimenting with gliders and the first airplane at Kitty Hawk. Educational in themselves, these recordings will induce the most book-allergic boy to pick up the eight Landmark titles now on records.

The American Library Association has produced another filmstrip in color, *SCHOOL LIBRARY QUARTERS*, 98 frames and costing \$15. This filmstrip shows the details of shelving for both book and nonbook materials, desk, card catalog, tables, chairs, floor and window treatment, workrooms, reading rooms, storage space and the like. We have not seen it as yet but hope to soon and will report on it later. If you have seen this, kindly let us have your comments.

Another Winston Science Fiction Novel, *Rocket Jockey*, by Philip St. John, has come our way, a Junior Literary Guild selection, and we found it thrilling. In winning the interplanetary rocket race, Jerry Blaine in the year 2170 had to touch every planet and outwit the Martians to bring victory to the Earth. Superior science fiction.



# Bibliotherapy

Lucy M. Latini, Editor  
Providence Hospital, Portland, Ore.

## BOOK SELECTION — A CHALLENGE\*

A few examples will exemplify how current trends affect our book selection program. Departmental needs to be mentioned are in the field of executive housekeeping, music therapy, cardiology, drug therapy, and electronics in medicine.

### EXECUTIVE HOUSEKEEPING

The housekeeping and maintenance departments of a modern hospital require, on the part of an Executive Housekeeper, a knowledge of economic quantities and qualities, standards and availability.

Hospital Librarians need to be alert to the reading needs of this department, providing such tools as those published by the *United States Health Service* and the *United States Bureau of Standards and Administrative Housekeeping* by LaBelle and Barton.

### MUSIC THERAPY

Librarians must be prepared to provide books and periodicals on *Music Therapy* including titles selected from splendid bibliographies in *Hospital Topics and Buyer*: (28:1950:20); Schullian and Schoen *Music and Medicine*; Soibelman, *Therapeutic and Industrial Uses of Music* N.Y.

### PHARMACOLOGY

Antibiotics research calls for materials on antibacterial or bacteriostatic activity. Useful here, *Antibiotic Therapy* by Welch, Lewis and Keefer (1951); *A dictionary of Antibiosis* by Karel and Roach (1951); and *Handbook of Antibiotics* by A. L. Baron (1950).

Advances in drug therapy, psychiatry and neurology have revolutionized clinical treatment including that for neurosyphilis, schizophrenia and epilepsy. To aid library patrons we may offer late editions of *Current Therapy* (1952) by Howard Conn, *Communicable Diseases* by Franklin Top and *Textbook of Pharmacology* by William Salter, 1952.

Use of ACTH and Cortisone opens a broad field of research. Both serve as valuable agents for the management of illnesses, which have failed to respond to other therapies. (1) The Hench report "Effects of Cortisone and ACTH on the Rheumatic Diseases" appeared in *Archives of Internal Medicine* 85:545-666 (April) 1950, "Introduction: Cortisone and ACTH in Clinical Medicine" a symposium. *Proceedings of the Staff Meetings of the Mayo Clinic* 25:474-504 (August) 1950. "Clinical Effects of Cortisone Administered Orally to Patients with Arthritis" by Hency and collaborators in *Proceedings of the Staff Meetings of the Mayo Clinic* 26:361-376 with the proceedings of the first and second clinical A.C.T.H. Conferences have been the subject of nation-wide discussion. (2) The Medical division, Merck and Company, Rahway, New Jersey offers a select, abstracted monthly *The Cortisone Investigator* with references. (3) *The Current uses of Cortisone and ACTH* by Dr. Theodore

Greiner, Cornell University Medical College, New York in *American Journal of the Medical Sciences*, May 1952, reviews diseases in which these drugs may be of value, describes therapeutic results and reports current use. In addition, there is an excellent five-page bibliography.

### ELECTRONICS IN MEDICINE

The role of "electronics in medicine," including radio, sound movies, X-ray, fluoroscopy, radium or radar and radio-active substances creates need for new methods and literature. Does *Medical Librarianship* imply that one must be a specialist in Medical Physics?

With either native or acquired background, the librarian will provide for library or departmental use, such books as Behrens, *Atomic Medicine* (1949); Pohle, *Clinical Radiation Therapy* (1950); Robertson, *Radiology Physics* (1948); Storch, *Fundamentals of Clinical Fluoroscopy*, and Ritvo, *Chest X-ray*.

In the words of Sir William Osler, "To study the phenomena of disease without books is to sail on an uncharted sea, while to study books without patients is not to go to sea at all."

Let us keep in mind what Francis R. St. John said: "We want our staff to think of the library as a friendly, effective, co-operative part of the hospital team, ready and able to render effective service in its field."

It may be deduced that medical librarians contribute to the philosophy of medical practice and that the alert librarian is often faced with the social, medical and spiritual implications of her work which offer opportunity for guidance. Books and journals provided through the library are bound to affect medical practice in the community.

Are we as Catholic librarians prepared to aid our medical staffs with materials which will offer direction in the solving of medico-moral problems?

The following are suggestive:

(1) Bouscaren, T. Lincoln (S.J.) *Ethics of Ectopic Operations*; (2) Finney, Patrick A. (C.M.) *Moral Problems in Hospital Practice*; (3) Ficarra Bernard J. (M.D.) *Newer Ethical Problems In Medicine and Surgery*; (4) Good, Frederick L. (M.D.) and Kelly, Otis F. (Rev.) *Marriage Morals and Medical Ethics*: A discussion of medico-moral problems in matrimony confronting priests, physicians, nurses and hospital administrators. (5) Kelly, Gerald (S.J.) *Ethical and Religious Directives for Catholic Hospitals*; (6) La Rochelle, Stanislaus (O.M.S.) *Handbook of Medical Ethics*: Intended primarily for nurses, physicians and priests. (7) Sullivan, Joseph V. (S.T.L.) *The Morality of Mercy Killing*.

Let us remember medical librarianship deals with the health of the entire man and that frequently the question of life or death gives impetus to the frantic search for references in medical literature.

Alert active participation in this search may help prolong life and life offers the opportunity of acquiring grace, through which, the soul may become closer to the Divine Creator of all life, for an endless eternity.

\*Continued from paper FUNCTIONS OF HOSPITAL LIBRARIES—SERVICE TO PATIENTS, NURSES AND MEDICAL STAFF delivered at the 26th Annual Conference of the CLA in New York by Sister Mary Berenice, Librarian, Mercy Hospital, Buffalo, New York.

# BOOKS ☆

☆  
Sister MARY REPARATA, O.P., Editor

☆ ☆ ☆ ☆  
BOEHNER, Philotheus, O.F.M. *Medieval Logic, an Outline of Its Development from 1250 to ca. 1400.* University of Chicago Press, 1952. 120 p. \$3.

The author's thesis is that the opposition felt today between modern logic with its emphasis on "formalism" and "neo-scholastic" and "traditional logic," does not exist between it and medieval logic (especially that of the 14th century) which was also "formalistic" in its approach. He provides very useful and original information on the peculiar characteristics and contributions of late medieval logic, but it is questionable whether his own emphasis on formalism as the distinguishing mark between good and bad logic is very fortunate. He is professor of philosophy at St. Bonaventure University.

REV. W. B. ASHLEY, O.P.  
Dominican House of Studies  
River Forest, Ill.

BRYAN, Alice I. *The Public Librarian;* with a section on The Education of Librarians by Robert D. Leigh. Columbia University Press, 1952. 474 p. tables. \$6.

Dr. Alice I. Bryan, assistant professor in the School of Library Service of Columbia University, and a trained psychologist, presents an illuminating description of the professional public librarian of today, built upon the responses of 3,107 librarians in sixty libraries: 2,395 librarians in forty-seven libraries, forming the basic representative group, and 702 in thirteen superior libraries, composing the additional group. In the first three parts of the work, Miss Bryan poses the personnel problem; covers the librarians' personal characteristics, cultural patterns, education, economic status, attitudes, and interests; and deals with personnel administration of the public library, including employee selection, classification, promotion, in-service training, welfare, morale, and evaluation of personnel practices. In the fourth part, Dr. Robert D. Leigh, director of the Public Library Inquiry, a political scientist, former president of Bennington College and now a visiting professor in Columbia University School of Library Service, treats the education of librarians, based chiefly upon responses to questionnaires sent to the thirty-four accredited library schools and their faculty members in 1948-49, in chapters entitled: "Evolution of Library Schools," "Educational Programs," "Students," and "Faculty and Instructional Resources." All of the conclusions of the study are noteworthy, the fifth and last, perhaps, most challenging: "The present public librarians are, on the average, oriented by temperament, interest, and training, more toward the atmosphere and the working pattern of the traditional public library than toward the purposes

and activities of the institution envisaged by the current official public library leaders."

SISTER MARY REPARATA, O.P.

COPLESTON, Frederick Charles, S.J. *Medieval Philosophy.* Philosophical Library, 1952. 194 p. \$2.75.

This is a very handy first introduction to the history of medieval philosophy designed especially for readers without acquaintance with scholastic terminology. St. Thomas Aquinas and Duns Scotus are each given a complete chapter. Other chapters sketch the main tendencies of thought in Islamic, Judaic, early and late Christian scholasticism. Not all the author's interpretations are unexceptionable, but they are clear and provide a starting point for further study. He is professor of the history of philosophy at Heythrop College.

REV. W. B. ASHLEY, O.P.

D'ENTREVES, Alexander Passerin. *Natural Law, an Introduction to Legal Philosophy.* Longmans, 1951. 126 p. \$2.

A provocative essay concerning the intimate relationship between historic jurisprudence and the fundamental norms and values which underlie positive law. The author shows how the logic of law and the ethics of law find their meeting ground in natural law, and seriously questions the contemporary attempt of legal theory to divorce positive law from its natural ethical context.

REV. W. B. ASHLEY, O.P.

HORGAN, Paul. *One Red Rose for Christmas.* Longmans, 1952. 96 p. \$1.75.

The day before Christmas, Mother Seraphim, busy with the myriad responsibilities of the orphanage she administers, finds her thoughts turning back a calendar year to the night the old building burned and her twin sister (also a member of the Community) contracted pneumonia and a few days later died. Now, Mother Seraphim, still troubled and incompletely reconciled, asks her sister to send her a red rose as a sign that the dead woman is in heaven, promising that hereafter she will be consoled.

It is to be expected that the sign comes through the least prepossessing child in the orphanage, a slattern and congenital liar who said she had set the fire. And, as is customary in fiction, a kindly old bishop visiting the children on Christmas Day advises Mother Superior and sets her mind at rest. Both incidents, however, are plausibly and consistently handled.

A pleasant and compassionate little story, this is appropriate seasonal fare. That it lacks depth, subtlety and brilliance of *The Devil in the Desert* does not diminish its warm idealism. H.L.B.

WEISER, Francis X., S.J. *The Christmas Book.* Harcourt. 188 p. \$3

Beginning with the beautiful Gospels of the Christmas story, Father Weiser traces the story of Christmas celebration from the earliest times. Midnight Mass, its titles and customs, the crib, lights and fires, the Christmas tree, Christmas foods, Saint Nicholas, Santa Claus, and the beautiful music of Christmas are traced with scholarly accuracy which never obscures the tender or whimsical note of his subject matter. Three delightful chapters on hymns and carols from every language and time give the lyrics translated by the author.

and many of the musical themes. One which must be very rare, given in both English and the roman letter transliteration of the original, is Brebeuf's hymn written for the Hurons. Many of the music passages are taken from the *Trapp Family Book of Christmas Songs*.

Much of this book is suitable for family or school reading. For reference use in libraries it will answer many questions not elsewhere brought together. J.M.L.

WEYL, Herman. *Symmetry*. Princeton University Press, 1952. 166 p. illus. \$3.75.

A beautiful little book of interest to the philosopher of nature as well as to the mathematician and artist. In his treatment of symmetry, or the harmony of proportions, the author, a professor of mathematics in the Institute for Advanced Study, Princeton, makes a valuable contribution to the use of the concept of form in art and nature. Primarily intended to develop this concept, the work displays the variety of applications of symmetry in the organic and inorganic world both in its text and its fine illustrations, and concludes with a statement of the philosophical and mathematical significance of proportion. REV. W. B. ASHLEY, O.P.

WHEELER, Opal. *Stars over Bethlehem*. Decorations by Christine Price. Dutton. 59 p. \$2.

A reverently written account of a Christmas Eve pilgrimage to Bethlehem by an American writer for children. Human interest touches and

local color combine with a broad knowledge of Biblical places and events. Although the author is not Catholic her descriptions are sensitive and thoughtful. A "gift" book printed in blue ink with tasteful page decorations, recommended for personal, but not library use. J.M.L.

## ☆ REFERENCE BOOKS

Sister Mary Claudia, I.H.M., Editor

JONES, Theodore S., ed. *Your Opportunity to Help Yourself, to Help Others*, 1952-1953. Milton 87, Mass., Your Opportunity, P.O. Box 41, 1952. 222 p. \$4.95; paper, \$3.95

A catalog of grants, fellowships, scholarships, awards, prizes, loan funds, and competitions which the editor hopes to issue annually. It includes opportunities open to Americans and Canadians for use in this country or abroad. The information is arranged in one alphabetical sequence with many cross references, and covers fields of interest from advertising to zoology. Of particular interest are the sections on the new (July, 1952) G.I. Bill, the Ford Foundation's fellowships, the Christopher awards, and Foreign Study and Research. SISTER MARY CLAUDIA, I.H.M.

HRDLICKA, Adolph E., O.S.B. *Union List of Serials in American Benedictine Libraries*. Preliminary edition. Edited for the Library science section of the American Benedictine Academy. Lisle, Ill., St. Procopius Abbey, 1952. v, 160 p. \$1.50

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EUGENE P. WILLGING

*Educators Guide to Free Films*, compiled and edited by Mary Foley Horkheimer and John W. Diffor. 12th annual ed. Randolph, Wis., Educators Progress Service, 1952. xi, 508 p. \$5.00

A completely revised edition of a catalog first published in 1941. The twelfth edition lists 2,332 sponsored films arranged under broad curricular topics followed by subject and title indexes. A "Source and Availability Index" gives an alphabetical list of the organizations from which films may be obtained and the conditions under which they are loaned. S.M.C.

The following references, received on the Farmington Plan, have been contributed by EUGENE P. WILLGING, Director, Catholic University of America Library.

TONDINI, Amleto. *Le encicliche Mariane*, a cura di Mons. Amleto Tondini. Prefazione di sua eminenza il Card. Mas-

simo Massimi. Roma, Angelo Belardette Editore, 1950. xxix, 672 p. L. 4,000

These Marian documents range from the *Ubi primam* (February 11, 1849) of Pope Pius IX to the *Auspicia quaedam* (May 1, 1948) of Pius XII. If the original text was in Latin, an Italian translation is given on a facing page. Introductory notes precede each text. There is a conspectus of all pontifical Marian documents from 1849 to 1949, referring to many not reproduced here but available in the various *Acta*. The book includes an alphabetical index of the opening words of each document and an analytical index of subjects.

*Katholiek Jaarboek voor België*; annuaire catholique de Belgique. Brussels, 5, rue Guimard, 1952. 1092 p. 200 Belgian fr.

The fifth edition of a standard work which will be found very helpful for larger libraries. The textual material is in Flemish and in French.

EMMERICH, Henricus, S.V.D. *Atlas Societatis Verbi Divini*; a statistical and geographical survey of all the activities of the Society of the Divine Word. Modling prope Vindobonam in Austria, Typis ad S. Gabrielem, 1952. 33 p., 21 maps.

Includes texts (in Latin, German, and English) and maps describing activities of the Society of the Divine Word throughout the world. Of particular interest are the tables on page 8, "The Negro Apostolate in the U.S.A."

## Gift Suggestions for Christmas

**FAMOUS SHRINES OF OUR LADY**, 2 Vols., by H. M. Gillett—Interesting stories of shrines of Our Lady based on personal study at the shrines themselves and coupled with tales and legends acquired from the local residents. Volume two contains an index to both parts. Selections of The Spiritual Book Associates. *Illustrated* per volume \$3.00

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PELZER, Auguste. *Repertoires d'incipit pour la littérature latine philosophique et théologique du moyen âge*. Ed. augm. Roma, Edizioni di Storia e Letteratura, Via Lancellotti 18, 1951. (Sussidi Eru-diti, No. 2) 44 p. L. 400.

An enlarged edition of a bibliography originally published in volume 43 (1948) of the *Revue d'histoire ecclésiastique*.

*Encyclopaedisch Kerkelijk Woordenboek*, verklaring van Woorden en uitdrukkingen uit het Katholieke leven ingeleid door Prof. Mag. Dr. J. B. Kors, O. P. Bilthoven, H. Nelissen. Antwerpen, T Groeit, 1952, 1011 p. 17.50 glds.

An illustrated dictionary of Catholic terms similar to the *Catholic Encyclopedia Dictionary*.

WYSER, Paul, O.P. *Das Thomismus*, Bern, A. Francke, 1951. (Bibliographische Einfuehrungen in das Studium der Philosophie, hrsg. von I. M. Bochenski, 15/16) 120 p. 5.80 Swiss fr.

Supplements the author's *Thomas von Aquin*, nos. 13/14, in the same series. The terminal date of entries included is July, 1950.

## ☆ CHILDREN'S BOOKS

☆ Ethna M. Sheehan, Editor

☆ MY TRAVELSHIP, translated and edited by Olive Beaupre Miller. Chicago. The Book House for Children, 1950. 3v.

NURSERY FRIENDS FROM FRANCE; illustrated by Maud and Miska Petersham. 191 p.

The old chansons and nursery rhymes dear to French children, many of which form the basis of our English counterparts, have been translated and given with the original music. All kinds of people, all parts of France and all ages of its history are represented. Soldiers and ships, animals and flowers, romance and games, farms and wildwoods are included among the subjects. There are notes on historical characters and places. The colorful drawings by the Petershams, were made in France especially for this volume. The endpapers have an attractive map of France. For international understanding we know of nothing finer than such a collection of music and we recommend this volume for elementary school and home use.

TALES TOLD IN HOLLAND: illustrated by Maud and Miska Petersham. 190 p.

Dutch legends and folk tales with a handful of stories about the best known Dutch painters, illustrate the art, geography, literature, history and customs of the Netherlands. Tyl Ulenspiegel, the prankster, is here as part of history, as is St. Nicholas and the Dutch puppet, Jan Klaasen and his wife Katryn. Songs are inserted at in-

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tervals. The Petershams visited Holland to make the illustrations and as all the provinces are included in the tales, we have a parade of Dutch children in intriguing costumes. End papers are a colored map of the country. Ideal for the Dutch unit in elementary school.

**LITTLE PICTURES OF JAPAN:** Illustrated by Katherine Sturges Dodge. 191 p.

The little three-line, seventeen syllable poems of Japan known as the "hokku" comprise the first part of the Oriental looking volume. These small poems for small people celebrate the stars, flowers, winds, bees and other simple subjects. Also included are two tales retold from classic Japanese poetic drama, and stories about the poet-authors. Again the drawings were made on the native soil. The flavor of Japan and China are here to enrich the study of these countries. Another splendid volume in content and format.

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RICHARD J. HURLEY

☆ ☆ ☆ ☆

## BOOKS FOR YOUNG PEOPLE

Helen L. Butler, Ph.D., Editor

☆ ☆ ☆ ☆

**BARRETT, Sarah Louise.** *A Leaf of Gold.* Dodd, 1952. 238 p. \$2.50

During junior year, Jean Wentworth is rudely awakened from a maze of happy dreams. When her father's illness and financial difficulties force her to live a different life from that she has looked forward to, Jean is rebellious and angry. At her grandparents' home in the tiny village of Fairhills, Jean, who has always said she would rather scrub floors than teach, inaugurates a play school and eventually does teach. Moreover, finding she cannot teach well without proper training, she enrolls at a teachers' college.

At times the story moves slowly and interest lags. The print is small for comfortable reading. Otherwise, the book should have appeal for young readers, particularly those interested in teaching of the "little red schoolhouse" type.

SISTER ANNA DANIEL, O.P.

**BONNIWELL, William R.** *Margaret of Metola;* drawings by Sister Mary of the Compassion. Kenedy, 1952. 177 p. \$2.50

The beata was a 14th-century Italian girl of noble birth whose parents immured her in a mountain cell because she had been born blind and deformed. When a hoped-for miracle failed to make her appearance normal, they deserted her in an alien city. The city's poor took her in, and on her death at 33 forced officials to give her obsequies befitting a saint. Based on Father Bonniwell's researches in Italian archives, this makes a well-written, dispassionate and freely rendered story which is at once readable, interesting, and inspiring. Noteworthy is the skillfully depicted background of Renaissance Italy. H.L.B.

**CRISS, Mildred.** *Abigail Adams: Leading Lady;* illus. with photographs. Dodd, 1952. 248 p. \$3

"Here is the production which dramatizes real people in a truly historical setting as they appear in scenes that are more or less fictional," says the author about her story of the wife of our second president and mother of our sixth. The full recital of political events which swirled about the one-time shy, plain Abigail Smith makes this story not only an entertaining and convincing biography but excellent collateral reading for American history classes. Carefully but unobtrusively documented, it is both the story of a gracious lady and of the period in which she lived. H.L.B.

**DE WOHL, Louis.** *The Golden Thread.* Lippincott, 1952. 254 p. \$3

If this were only "the life and times of St. Ignatius Loyola," it would probably have been a less successful novel. Unfortunately for high-school purposes, it is quite as much the story of a fictitious Uli von der Flue and teen-aged Juanita who, dressed as a boy, accompanied that swashbuckling Swiss mercenary on his travels. The second story involves exploits and comments which are probably better reserved for adult readers. A colorful, rapidly paced novel which reveals the turmoil of the 16th century. H.L.B.

**EYRE, Katherine Wigmore.** *The Song of the Thrush;* illus. by Stephani and Edward Godwin. Oxford Univ. Press, 1952. 251 p. \$3

Fifteenth-century England under Edward IV and the crook-back, Richard III, when the orphaned and attainted Margaret Plantagenet protected her small brother against Gloucester's wrath, played with the doomed princes later murdered in the Tower, and found a lover in Master Richard Pole. Though the tale ends with the small brother sent to the Tower by the Tudor newcomer, Henry VII, it is not a depressing story. An author's note gives briefly the subsequent history of both children, and identifies Margaret as the martyr and beata who was the mother of Cardinal Pole.

Colorful and rich in historical embroideries, this imaginative account is wholly credible, and thoroughly delightful in its historical and social details, well-sustained plot and three-dimensional characters. As always, the Godwin illustrations are lively and appealing. H.L.B.

**FLOHERTY, John J.** *Get That Story; Journalism—Its Lore and Thrills.* Lippincott, 1952. 150 p. illus. \$2.75

For the journalism aspirant, the schoolpaper staff, the American-scene observer, and the intelligently interested, here is a generalized account of one of the major forces in modern society. Following a brief overview of the history of newspapers, various chapters describe how one man got his start, how a country newspaper evolved, how a metropolitan newspaper is put together, and what it is like to be a reporter. A block of excellent pictures comes midway in the book. Brisk, informative and stimulating. H.L.B.

**GILBERT, Kenneth.** *The Trap;* illus. by Fred Collins. Holt, 1952. 182 p. \$2.50

Boys will like this story of 16-year-old Steve Brandon who spent a summer tending his sick

uncle's fishtraps in Alaska, ran afoul of raiding fish pirates, and with the help of his Indian friend, Johnny Buck, located their hideout and helped with their capture. Rather better than the usual run of adventure stories in its detailed descriptions of setting and characters. H.I.B.

HARTWELL, Nancy. *Who Was Sylvia?*  
Holt, 1952. 201 p. \$2.50

With her doting foster-parents and an affectionate sister a little older than herself, 17-year-old Sylvia Clement should be a very happy girl. However, she is tortured by uncertainty and unrest because she wants to know the identity of her real parents. Coinciding with her search for her parents' friends is her own developing career in the field of music recordings. How she fares in both ventures, aided by Sean, a young music student, provides the meat of the story. Written with warm understanding of youth's problems, this book will be enjoyed by all young readers, particularly by those interested in music.

SISTER ANNA DANIEL, O.P.

KIRCHER, Clara J. (comp.) *Character Formation through Books; A Bibliography*.  
3d ed. Catholic Univ. Press, 1952. 103 p.  
paper \$1.50

Like previous editions, this is an annotated list of books with character-building values, grouped into five reading-age levels: primary, lower grades, middle grades, junior high, and senior high. The new edition lists 387 titles, 165 of which have been published since the date of the last revision; it includes no o.p. titles; and gives evidence that character-building values must be combined with attractive format and content to qualify a title for inclusion. Typography is better than before. Annotations continue to reflect bibliotherapeutic values and are followed by a list of the character traits emphasized in the book under consideration. Since fresh and forward-looking interests often help to obviate behavior difficulties of children, the subject "Vocations" has been added in the Character Index. Another new feature is the list of readings on bibliotherapy.

Compiled by a librarian who knows children and young people, this should be a useful selection aid and reading guide for librarians, teachers and others who work with youth.

SISTER AGNESE, S.C.C.

SHUTE, Nevil. *The Far Country*. Morrow,  
1952. 343 p. \$3.50

Postwar Australia's plentiful bounty is contrasted with the skimpy rations of an England still too proud to admit its privations. Several characters work out the plot, but the reader is soon concerned mainly with the romance between Jennifer Morton, an English girl on vacation, and Carl Zlinter, a former Czech doctor working as a lumberman in the land of plenty. Their adventures in the colorful surroundings of the "far country" make a very readable story. In one or two spots the content is a bit mature, and consequently the book is recommended for the older high-school group.

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THOMPSON, Nellie Zetta. *Vitalized Assemblies; 200 Programs for All Occasions*. Dutton, 1952. 160 p. \$2

Administrative problems connected with the school assembly; planning the year's assembly programs; ideas for student-developed programs month by month and department by department; and criteria for evaluating the assembly, are the major considerations in this book addressed to teachers, librarians and youth organizations. Many of the programs suggested are practical and interesting (though uneven in instructions for carrying them through); others lack originality and/or demand overmuch from student participants. A list of agencies which book lyceums, and a list of sources of materials, are provided. H.L.B.

TUFTS, Anne. *As the Wheel Turns*; illus. by Robert L. Doremus. Holt, 1952. 246 p. \$2.50

An entertaining story about an English boy who, escaping from England in 1814, brought with him to the United States the plans for his father's power loom. In New England he was befriended by the Quaker girl, Charity, whom he eventually married, though that meant her being read out of meeting. His struggle to get his mill built, and the vindictiveness of Charity's former suitor make a suspenseful plot. Industrial unrest of the time is well-pictured. But Catholic schools will hesitate over a story in which love is more important than conscience. H.L.B.

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